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ANNUAL REPORT

14 May 1991 - 23 April 1992

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 1992

Supplement No. 13

United Nations
Economic Commission
for Africa

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ANNUAL REPORT

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CONTENTS

	Paragraphs	Page
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS		v
INTRODUCTION	1	ix

CHAPTERS

	Paragraphs	Page
I. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION	2-4	1
A. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council	2-3	1
B. Issues brought to the attention of the Council	4	5
II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD 14 MAY 1991 TO 23 APRIL 1992	5-65	11
A. Activities of subsidiary organs	5	11
B. Other activities	6-64	11
C. Relations with other United Nations programmes	65	22
III. TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS	66-154	23
A. Attendance and organization of work	66-74	25
B. Agenda	75	26
C. Account of proceedings	76-153	28
D. Programme of work and priorities	154	37
LIST OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING		39
IV. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING		41

ANNEXES:

	Paragraphs	Page
I. FINAL DECLARATION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING		59

II. MESSAGE TO HIS EXCELLENCY DR. BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS 63

III. REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (13 - 18 APRIL 1992) AS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION/EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS 65

IV. MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW (14 MAY 1991 - 23 APRIL 1992) 87

V. LIST OF DOCUMENTS 89

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAC	African Association of Cartography
AACHD	African Advisory Committee on Health Development
AAF-SAP	African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation
AAPAM	African Association for Public Administration and Management
AAPSO	Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization
AAS	African Academy of Sciences
AATPO	Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations
AAU	Association of African Universities
ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
ACARTSOD	African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development
ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
ACI	African Cultural Institute
ACCIS	Advisory Council on the Coordination of Information Systems
ACO	African Curriculum Organization
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group
ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development
ACMS	African Centre for Monetary Studies
ADB	African Development Bank
AFSA	African Statistical Association
AGRIS	Agricultural Information System
AHSCP	African Household Survey Capability Programme
AIDF	African Industrial Development Fund
AIHTTR	African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research
ALO	Arab Labour Organization
AFMF	African Monetary Fund
ANC	African National Congress
ANSTI	African Network of Science and Technology Institutes
AOCRS	African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing
APPER	Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery
ARCC	Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development
ARCEDEM	African Regional Centre for Engineering, Design and Manufacturing
ARCSE	African Regional Centre for Solar Energy
ARCT	African Regional Centre for Technology
ARI	African Rehabilitation Institute for Disabled Persons
ARSC	African Remote Sensing Council
ARSO	African Regional Organization for Standardization
ARSP	African Remote Sensing Programme
ASTIS	African Science and Technology Information System
ATRCW	African Training and Research Centre for Women
BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
BCEAC	Banque centrale des Etats de l'Afrique centrale
BCEAO	Central Bank of West African States
BOAD	West African Development Bank
CAAP	Common African Agricultural Programme
CADIS	Central African Development Information System
CAFRAD	African Centre for Administrative Training and Research for Development
CAMRDC	Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre
CDP	Committee for Development Planning
CEAO	Economic Community of West Africa
CEPGL	Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries

CERPOD	Centre d'études et de recherche sur la population pour le développement
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CIRDAFRICA	Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa
CODESRIA	Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa
CPC	Committee for Programme and Coordination
CRTO	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Ouagadougou
CRTK	Regional Remote Sensing Centre, Kinshasa
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DIESA	Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
DTCD	Department of Technical Cooperation for Development
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECA-MRAG	Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECDC	Economic cooperation among developing countries
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EDI	Economic Development Institute of the World Bank
EEC	European Economic Community
EIB	European Investment Bank
ESADIS	East and Southern African Development Information System
ESAMI	Eastern and Southern African Management Institute
ESAMRDC	Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre
EUROSTAT	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FACC	Federation of African Chambers of Commerce
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAWGD	Inter-agency Working Group on Desertification
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICCI	nternational Chamber of Commerce
ICID	International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
ICIPE	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology
ICM	Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDA	International Development Association
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IDDA	Industrial Development Decade for Africa
IDEP	African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
IDNDR	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
IDRC	International Development Research Centre of Canada
IDWSSD	International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFORD	Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development
IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
ILCA	International Livestock Centre for Africa

ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INSTRAW	United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
ISI	International Statistical Institute
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
JASPA	Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
KBO	Kagera Basin Organization
LAS	League of Arab States
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
LDCs	Least developed countries
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MINENDAF	Conférence des ministres de l'éducation nationale d'Afrique
MU	Maghreb Union
MULPOC	Multinational Programming and Operational Centre
NACP	National Accounts Capability Programme
NADIS	North African Development Information System
NATCAPs	National Technical Cooperation Assessments and Programmes
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
OAU	Organization of African Unity
ODA	Official development assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OMVG	Organization for the Development of the Gambia River
OMVS	Organization for the Development of the Senegal River
PAC	Pan-African Congress of Azania
PADIS	Pan-African Development Information System
PANA	Pan-African News Agency
PANAFTEL	Pan-African Telecommunications Network
POPIN	Population Information System for Africa
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
RASCOM	Regional African Satellite Communication System
RASDS	Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics
RBA	Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP)
RBASEP	Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes
RCSSMRS	Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing
RECTAS	Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys
RIPS	Regional Institute for Population Studies
SADCC	Southern African Development Coordination Conference
SAP	Structural adjustment programme
SAPAM	Special Action Programme for Administration and Management in Africa
SDI	Selective Dissemination of Information
SFD	Saudi Fund for Development
SSATP	Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Programme
STPA	Statistical Training Programme for Africa
SWMTEP	System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme
TCDC	Technical cooperation among developing countries
TEPCOW	Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole
TNCs	Transnational corporations
UAR	Union of African Railways
UDEAC	Central African Customs and Economic Union
UNAFRI	United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment

	of Offenders
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCSDHA	United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Organization
UNEDIFACT	United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Aministration, Commerce and Transport
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UN-PAAERD	United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development
UNSO	United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office
UNTACDA	United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
UNTFAD	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development
UNTNA	Union of National Radio and Television Organizations in Africa
UNU	United Nations University
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WACH	West African Clearing House
WADIS	West African Development Information System
WFC	World Food Council
WFP	World Food Programme
WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WTO	World Tourism Organization

INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Africa covers the period 14 May 1991 to 23 April 1992. It has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 18 of the Commission's terms of reference and was adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Commission on 23 April 1992.

CHAPTER I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council

2. At the twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 23 April 1992, the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning unanimously adopted the following resolutions and decisions calling for action by the Council:

1. Resolutions

*726 (XXVII).*Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) of 29 April 1958 and amended by its resolutions 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the various resolutions that have implications on the mandate and operations of the Commission including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, General Assembly resolutions 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 44/211 of 21 December 1989,

Noting with appreciation the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of Commission resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commissions,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of 19 December 1990, 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled to fully play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and those located in developing countries strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization process,

Reiterating the validity of the general orientation of the work programme of the Commission as outlined in the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997, including the identified individual subprogrammes,

Convinced that the many and important changes that are taking place in the member States of the Commission and in the United Nations system as a whole as well as the international environment, will necessitate new approaches by the Commission in carrying out its mandate and new relationships with its constituency and partners with a view to increasing its impact,

Having examined the in-depth analysis made by the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges",

1. Congratulates the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission for the initiative he took to establish a Task Force to review and appraise the Commission's

policy orientation, programmes and management capacity and for the excellent analysis of the pertinent issues and useful and innovative proposals he has made;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that there is a clear and concrete balance between the research and operational activities of the secretariat of the Commission and sharply focus all such activities of the Commission on the specific realities and characteristics of the African region, and of individual subregions;

3. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that its activities are fully grounded in sound data and information systems, through the strengthening of the Pan-African Development Information System, which should be provided with adequate financial resources;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is geared to the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of the Commission, with regard to: strengthening its advisory role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting private initiatives and entrepreneurship; promoting the development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; securing the structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promoting women in development;

5. Welcomes the process of frequent and close consultations of the secretariat with member States and donors through the regular briefing sessions held with their representatives in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

6. Recommends the establishment, within existing resources, of a consultative mechanism that would advise the Executive Secretary on the grouping of conferences along specific themes, including scheduling and the preparation of conferences, meetings, seminars, and workshops, taking into account the need to harmonize them with those of the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, to avoid duplication and achieve greater efficiency;

7. Urges the Executive Secretary of the Commission to explore every possibility of establishing or strengthening the relationships of the Commission with African intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies and non-governmental organizations including, in particular, the possibility of establishing joint units or special programmes with the various United Nations specialized agencies, and the creation of a special unit within the secretariat to coordinate the Commission's increased joint activities with non-governmental organizations;

8. Expresses appreciation to the General Assembly for providing additional resources to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and consequently recommends that in conformity with Commission resolution 702 (XXV) on transforming and strengthening the MULPOCs of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Centres should be further strengthened through redeployment of resources and be given specific assignments with respect to technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of joint projects of member States within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations in their respective subregions, and thus be enabled to act as the major subregional focal points for the collection and dissemination of information on all aspects of economic cooperation and integration;

9. Also expresses its gratitude to the General Assembly for providing a grant to the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning for funding four additional posts for the 1992-1993 biennium thus enabling the Institute to contribute to the process of strengthening the operational capacity of the Commission in meeting the challenges facing Africa in the 1990s, and requests the redeployment of resources which would enable the Institute to assume additional responsibility;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to

undertake a thorough examination of the problems and constraints facing the ECA-sponsored institutions and subsequently to make concrete proposals aimed at alleviating their various problems including consideration of such options as the merging of some of the institutions;

11. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to increase their financial and other forms of assistance to the Commission to enable it to shoulder its responsibilities to the member States by conducting extrabudgetary operational activities;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake, as may become necessary, reforms in the structure of the secretariat so as to achieve full consistency with the new orientations recommended herein so as to boost the efficiency and capability of the secretariat as an effective tool for the economic and social development of Africa;

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution to the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and twenty-eighth session of the Commission.

728 (XXVII). Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: Strengthening the role and functions of the regional commissions

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) of 29 April 1958 and amended by its resolutions 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the Economic and Social Councils decision to endorse ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177, 45/264 and 46/235 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and those located in developing countries should be strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization process,

Convinced that the Economic Commission for Africa plays a vital catalytic role in the coordination and execution of inter-country programmes and projects aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and integration, especially by pursuing the establishment of the African Economic Community,

1. Reaffirms the continuing validity of the role of the regional economic commissions as important organs of the United Nations for promoting the socio-economic development of their respective regions;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the context of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, due recognition is accorded to the vital role of the regional commissions.

2. Decisions

Decision 1 (XXVII). Industrial development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, having taken note of the report on the programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II),

1. Endorses the resolution of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry adopting the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

2. Recommends that, upon transmittal through the summer regular session of the Economic and Social Council, the IDDA II programme should be adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

3. Requests the General Assembly to substantially increase resources provided to the Commission for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa so as to strengthen its capacity to effectively

assist member States and subregional organizations in the implementation of the programme;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to submit to the next session of the Commission a harmonization plan through the sectoral conferences of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa programmes;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to do his utmost in order to strengthen cooperation between the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, particularly with regard to industrial policy, programmes and project formulation at the subregional and regional levels.

Decision 2 (XXVII). Implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, taking note of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on the progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa:

1. Urges member States to establish national coordination committees and revitalize their operation where they exist;

2. Requests the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary budgetary resources to enable it to effectively and efficiently carry out all the responsibilities and additional activities mandated to it in resolution 46/456, as lead agency and coordinator of the second Decade programme.

Decision 6 (XXVII). Thirteenth meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee (ARCC) for the Integration of Women in Development

(a) Recommendation for the nomination of an African woman Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women

The Conference of Ministers,

Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint an African woman to the post of Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women, to be held from 4 to 15 September 1995 in Beijing, China.

(b) Appointment of the members of the Subregional Committee and ARCC Bureaux

The Conference of Ministers,

Endorses the appointment of the following as members of the Subregional and ARCC Bureaux for the period 1992-1994:

(i) Gisenyi MULPOC

Zaire: Chairperson

Burundi: Vice-Chairperson

Rwanda: Rapporteur

(ii) Lusaka MULPOC

Uganda: Chairperson

Namibia: Vice-Chairperson

Zambia: Rapporteur

(iii) Niamey MULPOC

Burkina Faso: Chairperson

Niger: Vice-Chairperson

Nigeria: Rapporteur

(iv) Tangier MULPOC

Morocco: Chairperson

Tunisia: Vice-Chairperson

Algeria: Rapporteur

(v) Yaounde MULPOC

Cameroon: Chairperson

Central African Rep.: Vice-Chairperson

Congo: Rapporteur

Africa Regional Coordinating Committee

President: Nigeria

First Vice-President: Central African Republic

Second Vice-President: Rwanda

First Rapporteur: Uganda

Second Rapporteur: Algeria

(c) Agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women

The Conference of Ministers took note of the draft agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women.

3. Date and venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Commission/nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

3. The twenty-seventh session of the Commission received an offer by the Government of Zambia to hold the twenty-eighth session of the Commission/nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers in Lusaka, Zambia, in April 1993. It unanimously approved by acclamation this generous invitation in accordance with paragraph 4(f) of General Assembly resolution 40/243, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

B. Issues brought to the attention of the Council

4. The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa also adopted the following resolutions and decisions.

727 (XXVII). Implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community

The Conference of Ministers requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the President of the African Development Bank to make every effort possible to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community upon entry into force of the said Treaty.

729 (XXVII). The African debt crisis

The Conference of Ministers welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make alleviation of the debt burden of the poorest countries of the world a major priority area for the United Nations during his term of office and further welcomes the initiative of the Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa for having organized the Africa Debt Day in New York in October 1991 which proved a useful forum for impressing upon the international community the persistence of Africa's external indebtedness.

730 (XXVII). The role of indigenous banking and financial institutions in the mobilization of financial resources for development

The Conference of Ministers calls upon African countries to pursue appropriate policies that will help to raise the real incomes and savings of the African people, especially those in the rural areas, and implement financial reform programmes aimed at broadening and deepening the financial intermediation process.

731 (XXVII). Anticipated impact of new developments in the European Monetary System (EMS) on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries and the need to accelerate monetary integration in Africa

The Conference of Ministers requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director-General of the African Centre for Monetary Studies to assist member States in monitoring the evolution of the international monetary systems, including the European Monetary System, and in evaluating their possible impact on the macroeconomic variables and integration of African countries, and calls upon African countries to accelerate the ratification of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

732 (XXVII). Information systems for African economic development and integration

The Conference of Ministers urges member States in order to receive delivery of PADIS' technical assistance in information system development to use their UNDP country Indicative Planning Figures (IPFs) and to consider PADIS in their pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development. It further calls upon member States to adopt policies related to the acquisition and utilization of appropriate information technology and invites member States to declare 19 November as "African Development Information Day".

733 (XXVII). Strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers reaffirms its faith in and full adherence to the spirit of the LPA and the Final Act of Lagos (FAL) as Africa's basic programme for socio-economic development and transformation in the 1990s and beyond, calls upon African countries to strengthen their machinery for the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the LPA and the FAL at national and subregional levels and to ensure that the objectives, strategies and priorities of the LPA are fully incorporated in the objectives, strategies and priorities of national plans and subregional and regional programmes and plans of action.

734 (XXVII). Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers urges member States to set up Needs Assessment/Programme Review and Strategy Development Teams, as soon as possible, to draw lessons from past experiences and to identify needs and priorities, taking into account local conditions and the state of statistical development, and to formulate draft five- to ten-year national statistical development plans.

735 (XXVII). Short-term economic forecasting in Africa

The Conference of Ministers requests the secretariat of the Commission to continue to strengthen and expand its work on short-term economic forecasting in close collaboration with national planning organs, African multilateral institutions and research institutions so as to ensure that African countries have the necessary tools and skills for effective economic management.

736 (XXVII). Women and access to resources in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers recommends that ECA should facilitate the establishment of the federation of African women entrepreneurs and requests UNDP/UNIFEM to provide financial, material and technical support for the setting up of a secretariat for the federation, and further recommends that ECA, in collaboration with OAU and ADB, should study the possibility of creating an African bank for women.

737 (XXVII). The role of women in conflict resolution

The Conference of Ministers urges governments to ensure that women are part of all peace initiatives and negotiations at all levels in their respective countries, supports the initiative of the Uganda Government to hold a Regional Conference on Women for Peace which will provide a forum for women leaders of the region to propose strategies for the establishment and maintenance of peace in the region and propose programmes for alleviating the adverse effects of civil conflicts on women.

738 (XXVII). Science and technology for development

The Conference of Ministers requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted to the next session of the Commission on the possibility of establishing a Conference of African Ministers of Science and Technology for Development.

739 (XXVII). Adoption of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDAII)*

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/66B that had proclaimed the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II), Bearing in mind the report on the independent mid-term evaluation team of the IDDA prepared by the members of the evaluation team that had shown, inter alia, that the first IDDA had not attained the expected results,

Recalling resolution 2 (IX) adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its ninth meeting held from 29 May to 1 June 1989 in Harare, Zimbabwe concerning the proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the formulation of a programme for the Decade,

Recalling resolution AHG/Res. 180(XXV) of July 1989 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity requesting, inter alia, the proclamation of a second IDDA,

Recalling further resolution GC.3/10 of 23 November 1989 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its third session which had also called for the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Noting resolution 709 (XXVI) of the ECA Conference of Ministers on the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) which, inter alia, had mandated the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth regular session, through the Economic and Social Council, the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa together with the recommendations concerning practical mechanisms of its implementation and monitoring and including modalities for the mobilization of funds needed to finance the programme at the national, subregional, regional and international levels,

Pointing out to the twenty-seventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers that due to the unanticipated postponement of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry from 10 to 12 June 1991 to 29 to 31 July 1991, it had not been possible to submit the programme of the second IDDA to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1991 held in July 1991 and, consequently, it had also not been possible to submit the programme to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth regular session,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 that had proclaimed 1991-2000 as the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day,

Welcoming the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community by the Heads of State and Government of the OAU member States in Abuja, Nigeria on 3 June 1991,

Mindful of the important implications of the said Treaty, especially its article 48 on industry,

1. Decides to adopt a programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) covering the national, subregional and regional components contained in document CAMI.10/6:ICE/1991/6/Vol.1 and Vol.2;
2. Decides to establish a ten-member working group, to be appointed by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry each biennium, comprising the members of the current Bureau and five additional members representing each of the subregions, to monitor the progress made in implementing the programme;
3. Requests the secretariats of UNIDO and ECA, in coordination with other appropriate international financial and technical agencies and in conformity with the mechanisms provided for under subregional and regional programmes, to ensure the implementation of the programme;
4. Requests the Director-General of UNIDO to submit the programme for the second IDDA to the fourth session of the General Conference of UNIDO, through the Industrial Development Board at its resumed eighth session;

** Morocco expressed its reservations in respect of the fourth, ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs

5. *Appeals* to the fourth session of the General Conference of UNIDO to endorse the programme for the second IDDA and to extend its full support to it by allocating adequate resources to UNIDO to assist African countries and subregional organizations in implementing both the national and subregional components of the programme;

6. *Further requests* the twenty-seventh session of ECA Conference of Ministers to submit the programme for the second IDDA for adoption to the forty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly through ECOSOC at its second regular session for 1992 and requests the General Assembly to provide ECA with increased resources to enable it to effectively assist African countries and subregional organizations in the implementation and monitoring of the programme at the national, subregional and regional levels;

7. *Appeals* to African countries and African intergovernmental organizations, particularly financial institutions, to take the necessary measures to ensure the successful implementation of the programme for the second IDDA and to give priority to the mobilization of their own financial resources for the implementation and monitoring of the programme;

8. *Also appeals* to the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral funding institutions, to increase significantly their contributions to the industrial sector in African countries, so as to ensure the successful and sustained implementation of the programme;

9. *Specifically urges* international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, to extend their full support to the IDDA II programme and to ensure its effective implementation at the national and subregional levels;

10. *Further appeals* to the United Nations Development Programme to allocate, under regional component of its fifth programming cycle for Africa (1992-1996), adequate resources for supporting the activities of the programme;

11. *Requests* the Director-General of UNIDO and the Executive Secretary of ECA, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of OAU, to undertake follow-up actions for promoting national, subregional and regional activities in support of the programme and jointly submit biannual reports on the implementation of the programme to the ECA Conference of Ministers and the General Conference of UNIDO through the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

740 (XXVII). Human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa

The Conference of Ministers calls upon the international community and the United Nations agencies to give full support to the strategy and priorities espoused in the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, make greater use of local consultants and expertise in development projects funded by them, and urges UNDP to implement the Pilot Programme on Integrated Human Resources Development.

741 (XXVII). The work programme and budget of ACMAD for 1992-1994

The Conference of Ministers urges all member States which have not yet done so to ratify the Constitution of the Centre as soon as possible and further urges member States to support the Centre by seconding their scientists for short periods and at their expense to participate in the implementation of the programmes of the Centre.

Decision 3 (XXVII). Second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI)

The Conference of Ministers endorses the amendments to articles (v) and (ix) of the Statute of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) proposed at the second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of UNAFRI.

Decision 5 (XXVII). Seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: Appointment of members of the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning **(IDEP)**

The Conference of Ministers approves the appointment of the Sudan, Tunisia, Burundi, Cameroon, Namibia, Guinea, Nigeria and Togo to the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE PERIOD 14 MAY 1991 TO 23 APRIL 1992

A. Activities of subsidiary organs

5. The list of meetings of subsidiary organs held during the period under review is contained in annex IV of this report.

B. Other activities

6. This section comprises the activities carried out under the Commission's approved programme of work and priorities or in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Conference of Ministers.

Food and agriculture

7. During the period under review, the secretariat produced a number of guidelines, reports and technical publications in an effort to promote increased agricultural development in the region. These included:

(a) Guidelines on the establishment of closer coordination between sectoral planning strategies (JEFAD/FADPPS/91/59);

(b) Guidelines on the improvement of agricultural statistics as a tool for efficient planning and policy-making in the sector of agriculture (JEFAD/FADPPS/91/41);

(c) Guidelines on the role of non-governmental organizations in participatory rural development in selected African countries [ECA/SDA/IRD/90/1.2(D)];

(d) Guidelines for monitoring and evaluation of participatory rural development in Africa (JEFAD/IRD/APISS/91/58);

(e) Barriers to access of rural women to land, livestock, other productive assets, extension services and credit in selected African countries [ECA/SDA/IRD/JEFAD/91/1.2(2)]; and

(f) Measures for villagization and resettlement in selected African countries (ECA/SDA/IRD/JEFAD/91/44).

8. The technical publications were as follows:

(a) Forestry development (JEFAD/FADPPS/91/21);

(b) Framework for government officials on measures for promoting subregional cooperation in the production of cereals and tubers for the Yaounde-based MULPOC countries (JEFAD/APISS/91/60);

(c) Policies, strategies and measures for improving agricultural support services geared to the needs of women farmers (JEFAD/APISS/91/52);

(d) Measures for promoting cooperation at subregional level in the production and distribution of agricultural machinery and farm equipment in the Yaounde-based MULPOC countries (JEFAD/APISS/91/53);

(e) Study of measures to promote agrarian reform with emphasis on land tenure policies and inheritance laws in nomadic economies (JEFAD/APISS/91/55);

(f) Measures for the prevention, reduction and elimination of losses in the cattle subsector (JEFAD/APISS/91/33);

(g) Guidelines for structural reforms and transformation in the livestock sector (JEFAD/APISS/91/57);

(h) Improvement of the methods of storage and conservation of maize, sorghum and beans in the Gisenyi-based MULPOC countries (JEFAD/APISS/91/32);

(i) The role of the informal sector and the impact of structural adjustment programmes on the marketing of food commodities in Africa (JEFAD/AMS/91/51);

(j) Measures for improving the utilization and marketing of fish in North Africa (JEFAD/AMS/91/47); and

(k) Rural Progress (vol. X, No. 1-2, 1991).

9. The secretariat also attended and/or organized a number of seminars, workshops and meetings concerning the agricultural sector as follows:

(a) Subregional workshop on the control of locusts and grasshoppers in Eastern and Southern Africa;

(b) Regional meeting of experts on a collaborative research programme for sustainable control of locusts and grasshoppers;

(c) Meeting of agricultural researchers and planners in agricultural research institutions in Africa;

(d) Seventh in-house review meeting of the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA);

(e) Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC): Task Force on Rural Development.

10. Finally, the secretariat provided assistance in the implementation of the project on trypanosomiasis control in the Kagera basin and participated in the technical assessment of the project.

Marine affairs

11. In the field of marine affairs, the secretariat produced a number of reports, and organized a seminar as indicated below:

(a) Report on maritime cooperation in Africa: Measures for optimization of management and exploitation of living maritime resources [JEFAD/FMRS/91/40/2.3(iii)];

(b) Report to the Follow-up Committee of the Niamey MULPOC on the evaluation of living resources in the sea [JEFAD/FS/91/42/2.3(iv)];

(c) Master Plan for cooperation in the exploitation of coastal and marine resources in Central African States [JEFAD/FS/91/56/2.2(i)a];

(d) Current development status, policies, strategies and legal framework for developing marine resources in selected African member States.

12. A subregional seminar was also organized on the theme "How to improve planning and management capacities in the field of marine resources".

Socio-economic research and planning

13. The secretariat produced a variety of reports, studies and technical publications in the areas of social policy, planning, and research, least developed, island and land-locked countries, as well as on development issues and policies. It also attended a number of meetings, workshops and seminars in these related areas and provided advisory services to member States.

14. .The studies, reports and technical publications were as follows:

(a) Report on the state of social development in Africa and the policy challenges for the 1990s, presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers in May 1991;

(b) Study on social security systems and national development in Africa: An agenda for the 1990s;

(c) Report on social development and policy challenges in Africa, to be presented to the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;

(d) Report on the implementation of the African Charter for Social Action to be presented to the sixth Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs;

(e) Survey of economic and social conditions in the African least developed countries: 1990-1991 (E/ECA/LDCs.11/EXP.10/2);

(f) Progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs in the 1990s (E/ECA/LDCs.11/EXP.10/3);

(g) A critical evaluation of the balance-of-payment problems of the African least developed, island and land-locked countries (E/ECA/LDCs.11/EXP.10/4);

(h) Study on macroeconomic management and planning in African countries;

(i) Study on restructuring and planning of financial markets in the context of stabilization and adjustment for socio-economic transformation;

(j) Study on grassroot development in Africa;

(k) Study on the future role of planning in Africa's development and socio-economic transformation; and

(l) Study on the orientation of the African production base.

15. The technical publications included:

(a) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1990-1991;

(b) Economic Report on Africa, 1992; and

(c) Short-term forecasting model including programming and automation for the Congo.

16. In the area of operational activities, the secretariat continued to assist African countries in development planning including plan preparation and evaluation, as well as modelling and forecasting. It also presented papers and/or reports to the following meetings:

(a) Fifth technical consultations on the scheme for agricultural development (SACRED); and

(b) UNIDO workshop on industrial development in the least developed countries: Towards an industrial action plan.

Human resources planning, development and utilization

17. During the period under review, the secretariat provided assistance to member States in their efforts to strengthen and improve planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of human resources development and utilization through technical publications and other related studies, organizing and conducting seminars and conferences at national, subregional and regional levels for senior government officials and personnel as well as for personnel from private, parastatal and non-governmental organizations. The secretariat also assisted governments in strengthening their institutional machinery for human resources development and utilization, in curriculum development and evaluation, and in improving the delivery capability of non-formal education for development.

18. The following technical publications and other studies were produced:

(a) Assessment of the impact of organizational development programmes for university staff [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/10/5.2(i)(c)];

(b) Techniques for the evaluation of teaching and learning in institutions of higher education in Africa [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/11/5.2(i)(b)];

(c) Status of and requirements for training programmes and organizational development policies for university staff [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/16/5.2(i)(e)];

(d) An evaluation of the impact of structural adjustment programme capacities for the effective utilization of human resources in African countries [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/8/6.2/(i)(c);

(e) Profiles in development and utilization of human resources in Africa [ECA/PHSD/HRP/-91/15/6.1/(i)(c)];

(f) Guidelines in the preparation of manpower profiles and identification of training needs [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/17/6.1/(i)(b)];

(g) The role of Africa's institutions of higher learning in economic integration to meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/20/6.3/(iii)];

(h) Non-formal education and training [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/13/5.1/(i)(c)];

(i) Trends and issues in African education: Education Monograph No. 9 [ECA/PHSD/HRP/-91/14/5.1(i)(a)];

(j) Human resources development in Africa: Issues and trends - Monograph No. 19 [ECA/PHSD/HRP/TIN/91/21/6.2.(i)(d)];

(k) ECA training programme and training notice (ECA/PHSD/HRP/TIN/91/2), No. 77;

(l) Human resources in Africa: Issues and trends (April 1992);

(m) Strategies for increasing effectiveness of human resources in priority sectors for socio-economic development (April 1992).

19. The following reports were also prepared:

(a) Report to the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (April 1992); and

(b) Progress report on "Twenty-five fellowships awarded annually to African nationals to undertake short- or long-term studies in critical areas of manpower need" [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/18/5.3/(i)].

20. The secretariat, in collaboration with government institutions in member States, organized and conducted conferences, seminars and training workshops with a view to upgrading the professional knowledge, practical skills and improving the attitudes of personnel and officers engaged in curriculum development and evaluation, management training, teacher education, employment planning and productivity enhancement strategies. The workshops included:

(a) Institutional arrangements for human resources planning and programming for development, held in the Gambia [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/7/6.1(O.A.)];

(b) Educational planning, curriculum development and evaluation and teacher education, held in Botswana in collaboration with the Curriculum Development Unit of the Ministry of Education [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/12/5.1(O.A.)(a)];

(c) Management of training and organizational development programmes, organized in Zambia in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Administration [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/9/5.2(O.A.)(b)];

(d) Teaching and learning methods and techniques, organized in Lesotho in collaboration with the Institute of Extramural Studies, National University of Lesotho [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/5/2(O.A.)(a)];

(e) Employment planning and productivity enhancement, organized in Sierra Leone in collaboration with the Institute for Public Administration and Management, University of Sierra Leone [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/22/6.2/(O.A.)];

(f) Learning and teaching techniques, organized in Malawi in collaboration with UNDP/-UNESCO and the Malawi Institute of Education [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/25/5.2(O.A.)(a)];

(g) The concepts, process and techniques of curriculum development and evaluation, organized in Cameroon in collaboration with the Ministry of National Education [ECA/PHSD/HRP/-91/23/5.1(O.A.)(b); and

(h) The analysis and formulation of human resources policies for recovery and sustainable development, organized in Zambia in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Administration [ECA/PHSD/HRP/91/24/6.1(O.A.)(a)].

Pan-African Development Information System

21. The secretariat implemented a number of regular budget activities with extrabudgetary resources in the documentation and information system sector. Technical publications produced included:

(a) PADIS Newsletter, vol. 6, No. 4 and vol.7, No. 1 (English and French);

(b) DEVINDEX-Africa, 1991, No.1. and cumulative annual index (eight issues) (ST/ECA/-PADIS-DEV./91/1 and ST/ECA/PADIS-DEV./91/4);

(c) Directory of African Experts, 1991 (ST/ECA/PADIS/DAE/91); and

(d) Directory of Development Institutions in Africa, 1991 (ST/ECA/PADIS/DAI/91).

22. Databases on social and economic, scientific and technical aspects of development in Africa, and on African experts in social, economic, scientific and technical aspects of development in Africa were maintained throughout the period under review.

Environment and development in Africa

23. Activities relating to the implementation of the African Environment and Development Agenda continued to focus on the develop-

ment of environmental capabilities, including conservation of resources and pollution control.

24. The following technical publications were produced:

(a) Techniques in desertification control in selected African countries (ECA/ENV.DES/91, December 1991); and

(b) ECA Environment Newsletter, three issues in April, August and December 1991.

25. Other documents produced in response to General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Brazil, June 1992) included:

(a) Report of the UNCED African Ministerial Preparatory Conference, 11 to 16 July 1991 (ECA/UNCED.CAIRO/PREPCONF/91);

(b) Achieving our goals through the environment (ECA/ENV/UNCED.CAI/91);

(c) Cairo Common Position on the African Environment and Development Agenda (ECA/UNCED.CAIRO/POS 1./REV.1/91);

(d) Report of the meeting of experts for the second African Regional Ministerial Preparatory Conference, 11 and 12 November 1991 (ECA/ENV.AFRICON/11/91);

(e) Report of the second African Regional Ministerial Preparatory Conference, 13 and 14 November 1991 (ECA/ENV.AFRICON/12/91);

(f) Achieving our development goals through the environment: The African Environment and Development Agenda (ECA/ENV/UNCED.CAI/91/REV.1);

(g) African Common Position on Environment and Development (ECA/ENV.UNCED/-AFRICON/1/REV.1/91);

(h) Report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on Africa's preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (E/ECA/CM.18/13, April 1992). This was an update of the preparatory activities in the region;

(i) The African Common Position was officially presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers as a Conference Room Paper (E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.1, April 1992).

26. With regard to preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the following meetings of the African Ministerial Preparatory Conference were serviced by the secretariat in conjunction with other members of the joint secretariat of the Conference:

(a) UNCED African Ministerial Preparatory Conference, Cairo, 1 to 16 July 1991; and

(b) Meeting of the UNCED second African Regional Ministerial Preparatory Conference, Dakar, Senegal, 11 and 12 November 1991.

27. Other meetings serviced and/or attended by the secretariat included:

(a) Meetings of the Board of Governors for the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD);

(b) Consultative meetings between ECA, WMO and the Director-General of ACMAD to plan strategies for implementing the programmes of the Centre.

28. The secretariat also provided advisory services to member States on drought and desertification.

Human settlements

29. In the sector of human settlements, the secretariat prepared technical publications including:

(a) Appropriate mechanisms and financial arrangements for the promotion of the small-scale building construction sector (E/ECA/HUS/55/91);

(b) Methods and measures for the mobilization of local human and financial resources for the provision and maintenance of rural infrastructure and shelter (E/ECA/HUS/57/91);

(c) Two manuals for the training of small-scale entrepreneurs, technicians and artisans for the development of an indigenous construction sector (E/ECA/HUS/56/91 and E/ECA/HUS/58/91);

(d) Guidelines for the establishment of a regional network of information and for dissemination of documentation on human settlements with particular emphasis on the development and commercialization of selected indigenous building materials (E/ECA/HUS/59/91).

Industrial development

30. In this sector, the following nine reports were produced by the secretariat:

(a) Report on industrial development in Africa in the 1980s, presented at the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry in Dakar, Senegal in July 1991 (CAMI.10/3, ICE/1991/3);

(b) Draft programme of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II) 1991-2000: The subregional and regional programmes (CAMI.10/6/Vol.2, ICE/1991/6/Vol.2);

(c) Report on assessment of institutional infrastructures for developing industrial and technical capabilities in Africa (CAMI.10/4, ICE/1991/4);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the progress made in the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA which was submitted to ECOSOC;

(e) Report on the possibility for the establishment of an African regional network for agricultural chemicals and machinery (CAMI.10/5);

(f) Report to the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC on the potential for the manufacture of steel products (ECA/IHSD/ENG/009/91);

(g) Report to the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC on the potential development of the manufacture of aluminium products in West Africa (ECA/IHSD/MET/004/91);

(h) Report to the Council of Ministers of the Yaounde-based MULPOC on the experience of Nigeria and Cameroon in industrial designs of improved small-scale palm oil extracting equipment;

(i) Report to the Council of Ministers of the Yaounde-based MULPOC on the transfer of Ivorian technology for processing cassava to countries in the subregion.

31. The technical publications produced in this area were as follows:

(a) Focus on African Industry, vol. IV, No. 2, July 1991 and vol. V, No. 1;

(b) Ways and means of developing appropriate industrial technology and human resources through cooperative activities between universities, industrial research and development institutions and enterprises (ECA/IHSD/INS/004/91);

(c) Assessment of trends in technological innovations in the production and use of pesticides and fertilizer in Africa (ECA/IHS/CHM/005/91);

(d) Guidelines for the manufacture of special grade steels for engineering purposes (ECA/IHSD/MET/007/91);

(e) Guidelines on adopting standards for composite flours;

(f) Compendium on selected technologies and equipment for the processing of maize, tubers and palm oil;

(g) Directory of project profiles in metal working industries and medicinal plants processing for small-scale industries (ECA/IHSD/SSI/002/91); and

(h) Study on the scope of the informal sector industries (ECA/IHSD/SSI/016/91).

32. A number of workshops were also held during the period under review as follows:

(a) Working group of governmental experts on IDDA-II, Addis Ababa, April 1991;

(b) Subregional workshop on industrial planning, data collection and policy formulation for middle-level managers and planners for the countries of the Central African subregion, organized in Yaounde, Cameroon; and

(c) Workshop on the development of entrepreneurial capability for cottage and small-scale industries, held in Uganda in October 1991 (ECA/IHSD/SSI/017/91).

International trade and development finance

33. With regard to trade and development finance issues, the secretariat produced a number of reports that were presented to various meetings. The following documents were presented to the fourth session of the Con-

ference of African Ministers of Finance held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 17 and 18 December 1991:

(a) Mobilization and management of domestic and external resources, including foreign direct investment for financing development in Africa (E/ECA/TRADE/91/27);

(b) Report on the economic reform programmes in Africa and the debt problem (E/ECA/TRADE/91/26);

(c) Report on the anticipated impact of new developments in the European Monetary System on monetary and financial arrangements in selected African countries (E/ECA/TRADE/91/29);

(d) Also presented at the meeting of the Working Party of African Governors preparatory to the 1991 Annual Meeting of the Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank on 6 and 7 August 1991 was "Agenda for resource flows: Africa in the new world order" (E/ECA/TRADE/91/16).

34. During the period under review, the secretariat also prepared the following research documents:

(a) Impact of changes in the European Monetary System (EMS) on the monetary and financial system of African member countries of the CFA Zone (E/ECA/TRADE/91/33);

(b) Impact of developments in the European Monetary System (EMS) on the monetary and financial arrangements of a group of African non-English speaking countries not members of the Franc Zone (E/ECA/TRADE/91/28);

(c) Role of indigenous banking and finance establishments in the mobilization of financial resources for development: Financing problems (E/ECA/TRADE/91/31);

(d) Economic reform programmes in Africa and the debt problem (E/ECA/TRADE/91/26);

(e) Feasibility study on the establishment of an African regional trade information network (E/ECA/TRADE/91/32), presented at the ad hoc expert group meeting on the subject, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 9 to 12 December 1991;

(f) FLASH: Trade Opportunities (technical publication), No. 55, June 1991;

(g) African Trade Bulletin (technical publication), vol. 16, No. 1, June 1991.

35. The following meetings were also held during the period under review:

(a) Seventh Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, Teheran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 16 to 23 September 1991;

(b) Eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VIII), Cartegna de Indias, Columbia, 6 to 25 February 1992;

(c) Working Party of African Governors preparatory to the 1991 Annual Meetings of Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 6 and 7 August 1991;

(d) Annual Meetings of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group, Bangkok, Thailand, October 1991; and

(e) Ad hoc Expert Group meeting on the feasibility of establishing an African trade information network, Addis Ababa, 9 to 12 December 1991.

New and renewable sources of energy

36. A number of studies and technical publications were produced by the secretariat in relation to this sector as follows:

(a) Study on modalities of strengthening the institutional arrangements for management in the energy sector in Africa (NRD/MES/ER/1/1991);

(b) Assessment of the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action (ECA/NRD/MES/7/91) (paper was submitted to the Intergovernmental Expert Group meeting held in New York in August 1991); and

(c) Rationalization of petroleum products supply and distribution in Rwanda, Burundi, and Zaire (ECA/NRD/MES/8/91).

37. Meetings attended by the secretariat in this connection included:

(a) Intergovernmental Expert Group meeting, New York, August 1991 referred to above;

(b) Meeting of Governmental Experts from Eastern African countries on the regional study on rationalization of petroleum supply and distribution, convened by the World Bank in Nairobi, on 20 and 21 January 1992;

(c) Ad hoc meeting on Global Energy Efficiency 21 within the framework of Energy Efficiency 2000 Project, Geneva, from 3 to 5 March 1992; and

(d) Informal meetings were held and advisory services provided with regard to the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy and the Energy Commission of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL).

Natural resources

38. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared a number of research documents and technical publications relating to the mineral, water resources, cartography and remote sensing sectors, attended a number of meetings and provided advisory services to ECA-sponsored institutions and member States.

39. The following documents were produced:

(a) Financing of mining projects in Africa (NRD/MRU/TP/2/91);

(b) Lead and zinc (NRD/MRU/TP/1/92);

(c) Directory of African Experts in Earth Sciences (NRD/MRU/TP/3/91);

(d) Report of the fourth Regional Conference on Mineral Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, March 1991 (ECA/NRD/FRCDUMRA/9);

(e) The iron industry in Africa during the period 1980-1989 and prospects for the 1990s (ECA/NRD/FRCDUMRA/3);

(f) Review of the developments affecting the African mining sector during the 1980s and prospects for the 1990s (ECA/NRD/FRCDUMRA/6/91);

(g) Progress report on the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa (E/ECA/CM.17/15);

(h) Study on the conservation and rational use of water resources in North African countries (ECA/TNG/MULPOC/RIE/I/8);

(i) Study on large-scale water transfer in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and in the Sudan (ECA/NRD/TPUB/91/2);

(j) Compendium on land tenure policies and survey regulations in Africa (NRD/CRSU/91/4);

(k) Guidelines for the establishment of a common geodetic datum for Africa (NRD/CRSU/91/5); and

(l) Information Bulletin on Water Resources in Africa: Maji (ECA/NRD/WEMS/TPUB/91/5).

40. Meetings attended and/or organized by the secretariat included:

(a) Governing Council and Executive Board meetings of the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Centre (ESAMRDC) as well as capital development and legislative organ meetings of the institution;

(b) Fourth Regional Conference on Mineral Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, Ouagadougou, March 1991;

(c) [illegible]h session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Iron Ore, UNCTAD, Geneva, October 1991; and

(d) UNCTAD seminar on the role of the mineral sector in the economic development of Africa, Ouarzazate, Morocco.

41. The secretariat also provided backstopping and advisory services to ESAMRDC, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre and to member States on water resources development, particularly members of subregional river basin organizations, the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys, the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing, the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing, and the Regional Remote Sensing Centre at Ouagadougou.

Science and technology in Africa

42. With regard to this sector, the secretariat produced the following documents:

(a) Strategic management of international technology transfer: Managing the technological window;

(b) Popularization of science and technology. These two documents were presented in a training seminar for senior policy makers in Guinea in February 1992;

(c) New and emerging technologies: Their potentials and implications on the market and development for key African minerals, and building and construction materials. This was a technical publication (NRD/S&T/IGCESTD/7/8).

43. The secretariat also attended and/or organized the following meetings:

(a) Meeting of researchers from a number of African countries to review policy regarding institutions of science and technology, Addis Ababa, from 9 to 14 September 1991; and

(b) African Regional Workshop on New and Traditional Materials for Development, in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development, ADB and UNIDO, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 8 to 12 April 1991.

44. Advisory services were also provided to various member States, the African Regional Centre for Technology and the African Regional Organization for Standardization. Evaluation missions were also undertaken in cooperation with UNDP to evaluate implementation of UNDP-funded projects.

Population

45. The secretariat presented the following reports to the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 7 March 1992:

(a) Implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population;

(b) The interrelationship between infant and child mortality and fertility levels and their policy implications in selected ECA member States;

(c) An assessment of the socio-economic impact of refugee movements in selected African countries;

(d) An evaluation of urban migration policies in selected African countries;

(e) Updating of knowledge of size and dynamics: Highlights from the 1980 and 1990 rounds of population censuses conducted in ECA member States;

(f) ECA regional demographic training and research institutes; and

(g) Population activities in 1990-1991, examination of the approved programme of work for 1992-1993 and consideration of the draft work programme for 1994-1995.

46. Other documents presented to various meetings included:

(a) Implications of the apparent impact of structural adjustment programmes on population, presented at the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, May 1991;

(b) Population issues in Africa: Recent developments and their implications for the African Regional Population Programme, presented at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, April 1992;

(c) Major population-environment problems in Africa, presented at the Expert Group Meeting on Population, Environment and Development, New York, from 20 to 24 January 1992;

(d) Working paper for the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the third African Population Conference;

(e) Guidelines for the preparation of the main conference papers; and

(f) Guidelines for the preparation of the country reports.

The last three papers were presented at the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the third African Population Conference held in Dakar, Senegal in September 1991.

47. The following technical publications were also prepared by the secretariat during the period under review:

(a) Manual for the integration of population variables into development plans in African countries at the macro-level and in the agricultural sector;

(b) Statistical compendium on contraceptive prevalence and practice in African countries;

(c) Guidelines on improving delivery and evaluation of population and family planning programmes in African countries;

(d) Life-table analysis of birth intervals in selected African countries;

(e) Review of fertility estimates in selected African countries;

(f) Mortality patterns, trends, differentials and life-tables;

(g) Guidelines on evaluating the interrelationships among infant and child mortality, socio-economic factors and fertility in Africa;

(h) Guidelines on the methods of evaluating the socio-economic and demographic consequences of refugees in African countries;

(i) African Population Newsletter (three issues);

(j) POPIN-Africa INFO (four issues);

(k) The Press on African population issues: An index to selected sources, 1989-1991;

(l) Population information dissemination in Africa: An agenda for cooperation; and

(m) A guide to population information resources in Africa.

48. Meetings, workshops and seminars attended and/or organized by the secretariat during the period under review included:

(a) Expert Group Meeting on population, environment and development, New York, from 20 to 24 January 1992;

(b) First meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the third African Population Conference, Dakar, from 10 to 12 September 1991;

(c) Subregional workshops on the use of micro-computer software for demographic analysis and dissemination, Accra and Yaounde; and

(d) Training workshops in evaluating, analyzing and disseminating data from population censuses in Zanzibar, Egypt, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, the Niger and the Central African Republic.

49. Advisory services in the broad sector of population dynamics were also provided to several African countries by the ECA regional advisory services. The POPIN-Africa project continued to serve as the focal point for the secretariat's activities in the area of information dissemination and thus carried out bibliographic and documentation, clearing house and networking and coordination activities in this sector.

African Training and Research Centre for Women

50. The secretariat carried out a number of studies and prepared the following technical publications on women:

(a) Case studies on women's contributions to domestic trade in the United Republic of Tanzania and Ethiopia;

(b) Study on improving the role of African women in informal sector production and management;

(c) Study on women and violence in Africa [ECA/ATRCW/3.1(vi)/91];

(d) Guidelines for improving the role of women in the informal sector (technical publication, funded by extrabudgetary resources);

(e) ATRCW Update, No. 16, November 1991 and No. 17, December 1991; and

(f) Advancement of African women: Forging a strategy for the 1990s.

51. An expert group meeting to consider modalities of setting up a regional association of women entrepreneurs was organized by the secretariat in Nairobi on 22 and 23 October 1991. Another meeting, funded by the Ford Foundation, was organized by the secretariat in Nairobi from 22 to 28 November 1991 to review studies carried out under the project "Women's productive activities in the informal sector and agro-industries".

Social programmes and services

52. In this sector, activities were primarily focused on participation of specific population groups in development as well as crime prevention and criminal justice. The following technical publications were produced:

(a) Analysis of youth policies and programmes as reflected in national development plans and policies [ECA/PHSD/SDS/91/1(2.1(ii)b)];

(b) Survey of national policies and measures in crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries [ECA/PHSD/SDU/91/3(2.2(b)];

(c) The impact of crime on the economic and social development of African countries [ECA/PHSD/SDU/91/2(2.2)(b)]; and

(d) Equal Time, a newsletter [ECA/PHSD/SDU/91/4/2.1(c)].

53. The secretariat also provided backstopping services to the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI). It also participated and assisted in the organization of the second meeting of the Governing Board of the Institute, held in Kampala, Uganda, in May 1991 and the Seminar on the Prevention and Correction of Juvenile Delinquency, also held in Uganda in September 1991.

Public administration and finance in Africa

54. With regard to activities in this sector, the secretariat produced the following technical publications:

(a) Motivation and productivity in the public service in Africa: A review of the impact of the economic crisis and reform measures in selected African countries [ECA/PHSD/PAM/91/8[1.1(iii)(a)], November 1991;

(b) Approaches and methods of training senior personnel for decentralized administration (ECA/PHSD/PAM/91/5[1.1(iii)(b)], August 1991;

(c) Technical publication on institutional and managerial reforms in the public service: Emerging trends and lessons of recent experience in selected African countries [ECA/PHSD/PAM/-91/7[1.1(iii)(d)], November 1991;

(d) Report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on measures to strengthen the contribution of national public administration and management institutions to socio-economic development [ECA/PHSD/PAM/91/10[1.2(i)(b)], November 1991;

(e) Report to the ECA Conference of Ministers on measures for improving the capacity for economic development groups and small-scale entrepreneurs during a period of economic reconstruction [ECA/PHSD/91/9[1.2(i)(c)], November 1991;

(f) Improvements in the administration of local services in African countries: Issues and constraints [ECA/PHSD/PAM/91/11[1.2(ii)(b)], December 1991;

(g) Reforming government budgetary structure: A review of recent developments in selected African countries [ECA/PHSD/BUD/91/6[2.1(c)(c)], November 1991;

(h) Review of the impact of structural adjustment programmes on fiscal policies in selected African countries;

(i) Recent trends on tax revenue mobilization in selected African countries [ECA/PHSD/BUD/-91/3[2.2(c)], November 1991; and

(j) ECA Memorandum on the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of UN-PAAERD, 1986-1990.

55. In collaboration with member States, the secretariat organized, ran and serviced the following national training workshops and meetings with a view to strengthening the professional knowledge and practical skills of personnel, among other objectives:

(a) Meeting of the intergovernmental Experts Group on the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of UN-PAAERD, 1986-1990, Addis Ababa, from 19 to 29 April 1991;

(b) Workshop on decentralization for economic recovery and development for senior officials of decentralized administrations, Malawi, from 28 April to 10 May 1991;

(c) Workshop for local government officials on improvement of local government services, Cameroon, from 2 to 6 December 1991;

(d) Senior policy workshop on improving the performance of public enterprise management in Africa: Lessons from country experiences, Senegal, from 14 to 17 October 1991;

(e) Senior policy seminar on the ethics and accountability in African public services, United Republic of Tanzania, from 28 October to 1 November 1991;

(f) Workshop on improving public service productivity in the African public service;

(g) Senior policy workshop on resource mobilization and financing of African universities, Ghana, from 2 to 6 December 1991.

Transport and communications

56. The following reports were prepared for various meetings as a form of technical support:

(a) Report to the meeting of the Council of the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa on steps to be taken to promote efficient utilization of cargo-handling equipment;

(b) Report to the sixth African Port Symposium on the current status of training of middle-level port managers in Africa, Ghana, October 1991;

(c) Report to the Union of African Railways on the design of programmes for acquisition of railway rolling stock in the African region;

(d) Report to ECOWAS, AFCAC and AFRAA on cooperation for the development of air transport services in Africa within the framework of the Yamoussoukro Declaration;

(e) Report on intra-African cooperation in tourism;

(f) Report on facilitation of tourism travel in Africa;

(g) Report on training and human resources development for tourism;

(h) Report on hotel management and contractual relations with transnationals; and

(i) Celebration of the African Year of Tourism.

57. The ECA secretariat, as the lead agency in the preparation of the programme of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, organized and serviced meetings of the Resource Mobilization Committee, technical meetings with donors and financial institutions, as well as the African Symposium in collaboration with the EEC/ACP secretariat in Brussels, Belgium.

58. In the area of tourism, the secretariat provided advisory services in organizing a seminar on tourism to which it also submitted a paper referred to earlier. Technical support was also provided to the workshop on tourism travel and stays in Africa, organized by the World Tourism Organization in the Seychelles.

Statistics

59. In this area the secretariat produced the following technical publications on the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of reliable and up-to-date data:

(a) African Statistical Yearbook, 1988/1989, vol. II;

(b) African Socio-economic Indicators, 1989;

(c) Bibliography of African Statistical Publications, 1991;

(d) STPA News, No. 21 and No. 22;

(e) Statistical Newsletter, No. 75 and No. 76;

(f) African Compendium of Environment Statistics, 1991;

(g) Directory of electronic data processing centres and experts in Africa, 1991;

(h) Foreign Trade Statistics for Africa, Series A, No. 34 (Direction of Trade) and Series C, No. 11 (Summary of tables); and

(i) Computer printouts on demographic and social statistics, environment statistics, national accounts, foreign trade statistics and integrated demographic, social and economic statistics were also produced and disseminated to member States.

60. The ECA survey for the Final Review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) was carried out by the secretariat as a special assignment during the period under review.

61. A number of training workshops and other meetings were also held by the

secretariat as follows:

(a) Working group meeting on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s, Nairobi, Kenya, from 16 to 20 July 1991;

(b) National training course on census evaluation and statistical quality control, in Banjul, the Gambia in September 1991;

(c) Workshop for trainers involved in in-service statistical training programmes, in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 16 to 20 September 1991;

(d) Subregional training workshop on census cartography in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, from 11 to 29 November 1991;

(e) Training workshop on economic activity topics in population censuses, in Cotonou, Benin, from 2 to 6 September 1991; and

(f) Seventh meeting of directors of centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme, for Africa, in Addis Ababa, from 2 to 6 December 1991.

62. In the course of the implementation of two major UNDP-funded projects, namely the Statistical Development Programme for Africa and the UNFPA-funded Regional Advisory Services in Demographic Statistics, the secretariat carried out numerous advisory missions in the African region.

Economic integration and cooperation in Africa

63. During the period under review, the work of the secretariat in this sector focused on providing technical assistance to the intergovernmental organizations responsible for economic integration. The assistance was provided mainly through the three multisectoral projects, namely the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), ECOWAS and UDEAC. The secretariat also participated in the organization and servicing of a series of meetings on security, stability, cooperation and development which were concluded by a major meeting in Kampala, Uganda in May 1991, at which eminent African personalities exchanged views on links between democracy, good governance and development.

64. In April 1991, the secretariat serviced a meeting of the chief executives of African intergovernmental organizations in Addis Ababa to harmonize their position on the UNDP Fifth Programming Cycle.

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

65. Cooperation with United Nations organs and other specialized agencies was mostly in the areas of exchange of data, information and publications; participation in joint organization of seminars, workshops, consultative meetings and conferences; operational activities; and membership of steering and sponsoring committees for the supervision and execution of projects and programmes as detailed below:

(a) As an executing agency for the UNDP-funded multisectoral projects referred to above, ECA subcontracted the implementation of some components of the ECOWAS, UDEAC and ECCAS projects to FAO, UNIDO, ITU, UNEP, UNCTAD and ITC;

(b) Participated in joint meetings of the Steering Committee on Social Dimension of Adjustment sponsored by UNDP, the World Bank and ADB;

(c) Established ECA/WHO technical collaboration through the WHO/AFRO African Advisory Committee on Health Development;

(d) Participated in UNDP round tables on some African least developed and land-locked and island countries;

(e) Participated in workshops on the link "modelling" project being implemented by DIESA;

(f) Contributed inputs into the publications of the United Nations Commission on Social Development in Vienna, the World Economic Survey and other publications in DIESA;

(g) Cooperated with UNESCO on educational issues and the Conference of Ministers of Economic Planning and Education;

(h) Cooperated with ILO on employment issues in Africa and how the informal sector could be strengthened to promote productive self-employment;

(i) Collaborated with UNESCO on its Communications Programme for the development of joint programmes on information development in Africa and with the Advisory Council for the Coordination of Information Systems, a subsidiary of ACC, to promote widespread access to databases of the United Nations system;

(j) Exchanged databases with FAO, ILO, UNIDO and DIESA;

(k) Implemented operational projects funded by UNDP for the enhancement of information capabilities of member States with the International Development Research Centre;

(l) Implemented the UNDP-funded project "Special Action Programme in Administration and Management in Africa" (SAPAM);

(m) Co-organized a seminar on telecommunications for English-speaking countries with ITU and PATU;

(n) Participated in the preparation of the programme of the second Transport and Communications Decade as well as in efforts to secure programme implementation funds jointly with all United Nations specialized agencies;

(o) Attended the Expert Meeting on Women and the Informal Sector, held in March 1991; the Expert Meeting on Women and Violence, held in Vienna in October 1991 and in the Seminar on the Integration of Women in Development, held in Vienna in December 1991;

(p) Attended ad hoc inter-agency meetings on women, organized by the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women;

(q) Attended the third Inter-agency Consultation on the Preparations for the fourth World Conference on Women in December 1991;

(r) Collaborated with FAO in the running of the Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division;

(s) Participated in the meetings of the United Nations Statistical Commission and the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities;

(t) Involved FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, the United Nations Statistical Office and the World Bank in different stages of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa;

(u) Collaborated with the World Bank to implement a project on data collection with regard to development programmes and aid flows in Africa;

(v) Co-organized a workshop on economic activity topics in population census with the United Nations Statistical Office and ILO in Cotonou, Benin in December 1991; and

(w) Collaborated with ILO through the placement of a regional adviser on household surveys in ECA.

CHAPTER III

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. Attendance and organization of work

66. The twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning was held at Addis Ababa, from 20 to 23 April 1992. The meeting was formally opened by His Excellency Ato Tamrat Layne, Prime Minister and Representative of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia. The Secretary-General of the United Nations sent a message which was read to the Conference. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, by Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and by Honourable Mr. D. Mung'Omba, Deputy Minister of the National Commission for Development Planning of Zambia and the outgoing Chairman of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission. His Excellency Mr. Rachidi El Rhezouani, Minister of Planning of Morocco read out a vote of thanks on behalf of participants.

67. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

68. Observers from the following Member States of the United Nations were present: Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Venezuela. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Holy See were also represented by observers.

69. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development (UN-DESD), United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS/HABITAT), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Council (WFC), World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank, International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI).

70. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented.

71. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR), Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), Banque de développement des etats des grands lacs (BDEGL), Economic Community of West Africa (CEAO), Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Africa (CIRDAFRICA), Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Common Fund for Commodities, Commonwealth Secretariat, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), International Parliament for Safety and Peace (IPSP), Kagera Basin Organization (KBO), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA), Organisation panafricaine des femmes, Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and West African Clearing House (WACH).

72. Observers were also present from the Lutheran World Federation and CARITAS Internationalis, both non-governmental organizations.

73. The Conference elected the following officers:

Chairman: Senegal

First Vice-Chairman: Cameroon

Second Vice-Chairman: Algeria

Rapporteur: Lesotho

74. The Conference established an open-ended sub-Committee chaired by the Second Vice-Chairman to consider a draft declaration and related resolutions for adoption by the Conference.

B. Agenda

75. On 20 April 1992, the Conference adopted the following agenda:

Conference Theme: New directions for the Economic Commission for Africa

1. Opening of the meeting.

2. One minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Election of officers.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. General debate on: Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992, and transformation, recovery and adjustment:

    (a) Economic Report on Africa 1992;

    (b) Biennial report of the Executive Secretary;

    (c) New directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s;

    (d) Implementation of regional development strategies: Update:

    Progress report on the implementation of regional development strategies (the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Development, and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation).

6. Consideration of the report and recommendations of the thirteenth meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the Whole on:

    (a)Issues, studies and reports on regional cooperation for development in Africa:

    (i) Criteria for the identification of inter-subregional projects;

    (ii) Economic integration in North Africa within the context of the African Economic Community;

(iii) Agriculture and environment:

The effectiveness of subregional and regional development projects in the agriculture and rural sector with special emphasis on environment and sustainable development;

(iv) Population issues in Africa:

Analysis of the current strategy for the population programme in Africa and the implications of recent developments, including funding policies, for its scope and prospects;

(v) Information for development:

a. Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa;

b. The overall strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its sixteenth meeting in May 1990;

(vi) Transport and communications in Africa:

Progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

(vii) Industrial development in Africa:

Programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(viii) Natural resources and environment in Africa:

Report of the African Regional Preparatory Conference on Environment and Development;

(ix) Trade and development finance in Africa:

Report on Africa's preparation and participation in UNCTAD VIII;

(b) Issues from subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers;

(c) Statutory issues:

Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:

(i) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

(ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa;

(d) Programme of work and priorities of the Commission:

(i) Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work;

(ii) Progress report on ECA Regional Advisory Services;

(iii) Revision of the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997;

(e) Extrabudgetary resources and operational activities in ECA:

A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for operational activities in ECA.

7. Report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries.
8. Any other business.
9. Date and venue and other matters related to the twenty-eighth session of the Commission/nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers.
10. Consideration and adoption of the report and resolutions of the meeting.
11. Closing of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

76. In his opening statement to the twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, His Excellency Ato Tamrat Layne, Prime Minister of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia welcomed participants and assured them that Ethiopia would do its best to make their stay a most congenial and fruitful one.

77. The Prime Minister observed that the global changes of the late 1980s and early 1990s strongly indicated that the world was moving from a state of frequent, wide-spread armed conflicts towards an atmosphere of mutual tolerance, cooperation and peaceful dialogue in solving problems. Countries that to date had overly centralized economic systems were moving to a democratic, decentralized administration that, above all, demanded effective grassroots participation. He further observed that Africa had achieved positive outcome with the liberation wars in Southern Africa. In Ethiopia itself, peace and stability had fostered the fast growth of democracy. In accordance with the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation, adopted in Arusha in 1990, African countries had recognized that the development crisis had complex economic, social and political dimensions. He asserted that the effective resolution of the crisis therefore needed the contribution, creativity, popular commitment and democratic participation of the vast majority of Africans, with due account being taken of the role of women. To alleviate poverty, previously large military budgets should be greatly reduced, so that with the new mood of mutual cooperation and concern, the world could better help Africa to tackle its basic external problems of soaring debt and debt-servicing, deterioration in the terms of trade and reduced inflow of external resources.

78. The Prime Minister affirmed that Ethiopia supported the changes taking place in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe but believed that their growing demands on the developed world needed not reduce aid and technical cooperation in Africa if appropriate strategies and modalities were worked out to enhance mutual development. Much depended on the rate at which traditional agriculture was transformed. Moreover, the pursuit of basic aims would be helped by accelerating regional and subregional economic cooperation and integration, introducing sound population policies and identifying priorities in health, education and the environment. In this regard, the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Economic Community and the New Economic Agenda offered useful guidance for the short, medium and long terms.

79. The Prime Minister asserted that it was important to distinguish implementation from intention and to lay more emphasis than ever before on specific African conditions, particularly those affecting human resources development, the participation of women in development and the securing of adequate external resources. The scope and content of education had to be congruent with sound economic policy if educated unemployment was to be avoided and graduates enabled to make their full contribution to economic growth.

80. Turning to economic cooperation and integration in Africa, he mentioned that those issues had been adequately addressed in the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community which placed a singular emphasis on the evolution of subregional economic communities as a basis for regional integration. In that context OAU, ADB, the United Nations specialized agencies and ECA, as well as the UNDP inter-country programme, were indispensable tools for the growth and development of the subregional economic communities. He urged all African member States and the international community to take appropriate measures to speed up the development of subregional communities as a prelude to continental economic integration. However, he reminded the Conference that Africa had the ultimate responsibility for its own destiny and development and should rely mainly on its own resources and effort for sustainable development.

81. In conclusion, the Prime Minister informed the Conference that Ethiopia was pleased that its internal conflict had come to an end. Both the National Charter and the Economic Policy for the Transitional Period confirmed Ethiopia's transition from war to

peace, from totalitarianism to democracy and from a command to a market-oriented economy. The political changes in Ethiopia, especially the emergence of a peaceful and democratic society, were positive indications that socio-economic development would be achieved. Ethiopia looked forward to the world's understanding and support for the success of its pioneering endeavour.

82. In a message read on his behalf, Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations stated that African economies had, in the past decade, suffered dramatic deterioration characterized by disproportionate population growth, serious declines in standards of living, worsening terms of trade and debt-servicing burdens. The struggle to revitalize and strengthen Africa's national economies reflected his own global perspective for international economic development. One of his major priorities would be to narrow the gap between the rich North and poor South through solutions to the debt problem and strategies for development within a sustainable environment.

83. He felt encouraged by the imaginative and realistic strategies that Africa had devised for meeting development challenges. The principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, the Khartoum Declaration on Human-centred Development, and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation were all useful instruments for the recovery and transformation of African economies. The New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF), adopted by the General Assembly in December 1991 as a successor arrangement to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) could be used to build upon all those past initiatives. He was confident that Africa would succeed in moving ahead with its recovery and in improving the socio-economic conditions of its people. He went on to maintain that development and democracy were inseparable. The Charter of the United Nations held that "better standards of life in larger freedom" depended alike on human rights, justice and economic and social progress. This principle was gaining ground with the end of the cold war and the acceptance of democratic principles in the Eastern European countries, the increasing advocacy for and adoption of political pluralism in Africa and the dismantling of the system of apartheid in South Africa. Unfortunately, some countries were unable to concentrate on economic development as they were still plagued with civil strife, border disputes and environmental degradation, famine and refugee problems.

84. A pressing priority of the United Nations was to strengthen democratic institutions and to support the democratization of all aspects of international relations. The regional commissions had been major forces in promoting cooperation and integration for development. To create a climate of sustainable peace and security that would further their efforts, he intended to pursue an active policy of preventive diplomacy, in support of all aspects of United Nations peace-building and peace-keeping.

85. The challenges ahead required that the United Nations machinery should function with maximum effectiveness. To that end, he would streamline United Nations operations by following through with the restructuring of the Organization. He urged all Member States to join hands with the United Nations system to revitalize the Organization. He was particularly gratified to note that the Economic Commission for Africa had already completed the first phase of a stock-taking that would keep it at the forefront of African development and cooperation. He was confident that African Ministers responsible for Economic Planning and Development would continue to support the Commission in that effort.

86. In his statement, Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa expressed his appreciation to His Excellency Ato Tamrat Layne for presiding over the opening ceremony. His presence demonstrated the commitment of the Ethiopian people and of its Government, most particularly His Excellency President Meles Zenawi, to strengthening intra-African cooperation and accordingly supporting the Commission's effort in that direction. His appreciation and gratitude also went to the chief executives of the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank for their cooperation with ECA. He paid a special tribute to his predecessors, Mr. Mekki Abbas of the Sudan, Dr. Robert Gardiner of

Ghana, and Professor Adebayo Adedeji of Nigeria, all of whom had championed the socio-economic transformation of African economies and the strengthening of intra-African cooperation. He affirmed that he would endeavour to build upon the heritage of their achievement.

87. The Acting Executive Secretary observed that the world was visibly changing. Many conflicts had died out and the transition to democratic systems of government was being driven by the will of the people. One significant sign of the resurgence of democracy was the Convention on a Democratic South Africa which should lead to the speedy abolition of apartheid. There was also increasing recognition of the need to step up intra-African cooperation in order to accelerate economic integration, as evidenced by the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

88. Africa continued, however, to face many economic difficulties. Indeed, regional GDP had grown by a mere 2.3 per cent in 1991 while the population growth rate had reached about 3 per cent. The paucity of domestic savings had combined with the decline in export earnings, the dwindling of external resource inflows and the debt overhang to leave scant resources available for development.

89. He cautioned that ECA's task of promoting Africa's economic and social transformation along with regional economic cooperation in the 1990s would become difficult in a constantly changing political, economic and social landscape as the attention of Africa's major development partners shifted increasingly towards other regions, particularly Eastern Europe. He was gratified, therefore, to note that African countries were becoming increasingly aware that economic integration at the subregional and regional levels would avoid longer term marginalization of the continent as trading blocs emerged in other regions of the world.

90. In order to improve ECA, he had commissioned a Task Force to review its general policy direction, programming and delivery capacity. The report of the Task Force, together with inputs from the substantive staff of ECA, OAU, and eminent persons experienced in African development, had been used to prepare document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges". ECA would devote the decade of the 1990s to the practical pursuit of priorities. The Commission would continue to take the lead in the design and articulation of solutions to Africa's socio-economic development problems, but its focus would be aimed more specifically at the problems of member countries within the context of the various subregional economic groupings.

91. ECA would have to pay greater attention to the quality of its outputs. That would mean fewer conferences which would be better prepared and action-oriented, more effective support by ECA to member countries for international negotiations, and greater relevance in ECA research activities and technical publications. Efforts would be made to achieve better marketing of ECA products so that they would be helpful to member States. ECA should work more closely with OAU, ADB and the subregional economic organizations. The need to lay more emphasis on operational activities would require more dynamic cooperation with other United Nations agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions, and the non-governmental and professional organizations in Africa. Areas of focus for programme delivery would cut across a large number of ongoing subprogrammes in agriculture, industry, transport and communications, human resources development and others, and would provide indicators by which the Commission's achievements could be measured.

92. Africa's vast potential in human and natural resources, the growing commitment of African Governments to economic and political reform, the high entrepreneurial zeal and the general determination of the people to participate fully in the development process, affirmed that Africa's case was far from hopeless. ECA saw positive developments in the promotion of development policies that ensured growth with equity; the vibrancy of indigenous non-governmental organizations in economic, social and political empowerment; the growing awareness among African countries that democratic policies must go hand-in-hand with sound economic management; and in the realization by Africans that Africa must not merely survive but develop through cooperative effort.

93. He recalled the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes (AAF-SAP) which had been adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1989 and subsequently endorsed both by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU and by the General Assembly of the United Nations. That had helped to institute a three-way dialogue between African countries implementing structural adjustment programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions and ECA. In that dialogue, all the partners had recognized that short-term adjustment measures had to be embedded in long-term transformation; Africa's development had to be human-centred; there had to be more efficient and effective mobilization and utilization of all domestic resources; and good governance and accountability were vital for the sustainability of reforms. Those areas of agreement provided a solid basis for enhancing cooperation and expanding consensus with the Bretton Woods institutions. They were also consistent with the areas of focus around which ECA's work programme should now be implemented, reflecting as they did the concerns of African Governments and peoples. He counted on the support of each member State, African IGOs, United Nations agencies and development partners in the changes which were planned.

94. In his statement, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, outlined the major events in Africa and elsewhere which had had far-reaching repercussions on the future development of African countries. The signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community demonstrated the commitment of African leaders to work more assiduously towards the total economic independence of the region. There was an irreversible tide towards involving more integrally the entire African society in the socio-economic development of the region and securing an effective popular participation.

95. The Secretary-General observed that African leaders had stepped up efforts towards finding effective solutions to conflicts in the region. South Africa might ultimately break loose from the shackles of racism and re-emerge as a positive force in the human and material development of the region. In his view, only Africa could marginalize itself. Its interests had never tallied with those of the countries it looked up to for assistance and support. The global geopolitical changes as well as shifts in alliances and emphasis meant that a new strategy had to be pursued for Africa's survival.

96. It behoved African countries to mobilize and commit their national resources to that end. External resources, which would be required to complement Africa's own effort, should be directed to programmes and projects that promoted economic integration on the basis of the priorities established by the countries. He appealed to the international community to supplement such efforts.

97. Given Africa's total outstanding debt of over $US 275 billion and its inability to service the huge debt costing $US 26 billion annually, the countries appeared to have lost interest in discussing the problem, and all the solutions proposed to date had had minimal impact. Also, since commodity prices could not be restored to the levels of the 1960s, and Africa's total export earnings could not match its requirements for accelerated socio-economic transformation, the region had to rethink its future strategy.

98. Africa should, none the less, attach more importance to international cooperation for development and to the enhanced role of the United Nations, and the international community should act out its responsibility and commitment so that the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s would not suffer the fate of its predecessor, UN-PAAERD.

99. With regard to the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, he felt that environmental issues should be seen within the context of Africa's lack of food and energy security, the need for improvement in the quality of life, and for sustainable economic growth with transformation that would guarantee productive employment.

100. His Excellency Mr. Rachidi El Rhezouani, Minister of Planning of Morocco moved a vote of thanks on behalf of all the participants to His Excellency, Ato Tamrat Layne, Prime Minister and Representative of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia, for having found time to open the eighteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, and for his inspiring statement. He expressed appreciation to the Prime Minister for sharing with the Conference

information on the major activities undertaken by his Government towards the economic and social development of Ethiopia and the well-being of its people. He then expressed heartfelt appreciation to the people and Government of Ethiopia for the hospitality accorded to participants since their arrival in Addis Ababa.

101. The representative of Morocco also expressed sincere gratitude to Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo, Acting Executive Secretary of ECA for his lucid statement, which had underlined the current changes in the world, and their economic impact on African countries.

102. Special tribute was paid to the secretariat for the high quality of documents which had facilitated a fruitful exchange of views and led to sound recommendations to the Conference of Ministers by the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW). In conclusion, the Honourable Minister congratulated TEPCOW for the excellent work done at its thirteenth meeting and expressed the wish that its report and recommendations would be endorsed by the Conference.

103. In his statement, the outgoing Chairman thanked participants for having entrusted his bureau with the responsibility of conducting the work of the Conference. He expressed hope that openness and cooperation would continue to guide the deliberations of the current session of the Commission and appealed to all delegates and observers to cooperate with the incoming bureau. He went on to introduce the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission and appealed to participants to give him their unreserved cooperation so that he could discharge his new responsibilities.

104. He reported on the initiative taken by the Conference at its previous meeting to propose a New Agenda for cooperation between Africa and the international community and paid tribute to His Excellency General Babangida, the President of Nigeria, for despatching one of his most dedicated and talented diplomats to lead the African Group at the negotiations for the New Agenda in the General Assembly. His tribute also went to the rest of the African delegations that had supported the Nigerian Minister.

105. He referred to the lack of democracy and absence of accountability in African political systems as real problems facing Africa. He pointed out that one-party political systems and corrupt institutions had hampered competition in economic life and the private sector had played a very limited role in African economies. African countries had to position themselves to compete for dwindling external resources. He advised that external financial assistance should only supplement Africa's efforts; for that to happen, Zambia had had to opt for a new political and economic culture, based on transparency, accountability, honesty, hard work, economic realism and respect for human rights.

106. The outgoing Chairman reported to the Conference that the third extraordinary session of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning had met in Windhoek, Namibia in November 1991, and considered the UNDP Fifth Inter-country Programme for Africa. Resources for the Fifth Inter-country Programme would be lower than expected because money had been borrowed from it to fund part of the Fourth Inter-country Programme. He hoped that UNDP would therefore provide extra funds so that regional development would not be weakened by reduced funding.

107. He was deeply concerned that internal conflicts were destroying lives and institutions that Africa could not afford to lose. He appealed to all leaders to cooperate by using dialogue to resolve internal conflicts since Africa needed internal peace to achieve meaningful cooperation.

108. The outgoing Chairman regretted that the Eastern and Southern African subregion was currently afflicted by the worst drought in living memory. Crop losses ranging from 50 to 100 per cent were being recorded and emergency food assistance of an unprecedented magnitude would be required to alleviate the suffering. He informed the Conference that rivers and boreholes were drying up, affecting livestock and the supply of hydroelectric energy. Since most of the countries affected were among the least developed, the sheer logistics of importing and distributing food would require cooperation among the countries of the subregion on a scale never before experienced. He was confident that the Conference would address the

problem and thanked the external donor community for its response to the plight of the subregion.

General debate on: Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992, and transformation, recovery and adjustment (agenda item 5)

109. Several delegates and observers including representatives of United Nations agencies, regional and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations participated in the general debate, inspired by the Conference theme: New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s.

110. Participants underscored the profound geopolitical changes which had been taking place in the world at large, and in the Africa region, in particular. There was general agreement that Africa faced major new challenges which must be overcome if the region was to achieve socio-economic recovery in the 1990s. The new international environment was likely to be characterized by the emergence of regional economic blocs, and increased competition for the world's scarce financial resources. It was also possible that Africa's traditional partners-in-development might be distracted by aid requests from other regions. The general consensus was that, in order to meet the above challenges and be able to achieve the goals for socio-economic recovery spelt out in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, member States must forge ahead with the process of democratization, secure maximum respect for human rights and enhance popular participation in development. It was also necessary to pursue sound and pragmatic economic and social policies to implement the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and to mobilize internal resources.

111. Participants congratulated the secretariat for the care it had taken to provide the meeting with documents that were reduced in number, shorter in length and of higher substantive quality. They encouraged the secretariat to continue its efforts to make the annual sessions even more effective.

112. Several delegations dwelt on the need to further enhance the efficiency of the ECA secretariat. In this connection, they called for the adoption of a multidisciplinary approach to programme implementation; the rationalization of work programmes; effective structuring and running of the secretariat; and increased accountability to the Conference of Ministers with regard to programme and project performance. The vital importance of investing in human resources development, both for member States and the ECA secretariat, was underscored. ECA was requested to play a coordinating role by collecting and disseminating to governments all information on fellowships and training, with emphasis on opportunities offered in the context of African inter-country cooperation. It was suggested that ECA should be an "African think-tank", which would attempt to read the future in order to provide its member States with advance warning of problems that they would have to face.

113. The proposed new directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s were considered to be an appropriate and timely response to the challenges facing the region. The Acting Executive Secretary of ECA was commended for having initiated the process of re-orienting the Commission in order to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness.

114. Delegates expressed satisfaction with the spirit of cooperation that was being strengthened between the secretariats of institutions, OAU, ADB and ECA and urged the executive heads of the three institutions to maintain the momentum already generated in this regard through the joint OAU/ECA/ADB secretariat. The ultimate goal of the joint secretariat was to assist member States in the concrete implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. The three institutions should clearly define their respective roles in this regard and seek complementarity in their objectives.

115. The Conference noted with appreciation the General Assembly's continuing support for the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of ECA. There was an urgent need to enable the MULPOCs to play an effective role in the promotion of subregional cooperation and integration. The Conference agreed that the MULPOCs could provide technical advice to the subregional economic groupings and inter-

governmental organizations, and participate more actively in the collection and dissemination of information among member States and IGOs if they were revitalized. Special reference was made to the economic cooperation and integration process in the North African subregion, and the need to support efforts currently underway there.

116. With respect to the rationalization of ECA-sponsored institutions, the Conference considered that an in-depth evaluation of their viability should be prepared by the ECA secretariat, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication of functions and waste of scarce resources. Concern was also expressed with regard to other subregional and regional intergovernmental organizations which, given their sheer number and duplication of, placed a heavy burden on the financial resources of member States.

117. Special interest was expressed by member States on a proposal for the reduction and rationalization of the meetings organized by the Commission. The Conference urged the secretariat to ensure that such meetings were better programmed, and were focused on precise themes and issues. Delegations also requested the OAU, ADB and ECA to harmonize their respective meetings. The Conference suggested that an advisory committee might be organized within existing resources to assist the secretariat in that regard.

118. It was also stressed that ECA should endeavour to promote complementarity with regional activities being carried out by other organizations such as the Bretton Woods institutions or those of the United Nations system.

119. The overriding importance of agriculture was underlined. Agricultural development was indeed central to all efforts for achieving the objectives of socio-economic development. Accordingly, sustained agricultural development would require projects which took into consideration the need for food security; appropriately scaled irrigation projects for arid and semi-arid lands; agricultural research projects, especially those designed to promote maximum use of local inputs; field extension services to promote the application of high-yield crop and improved livestock breeds; and adequate investment in rural areas in order to curb the current migration to the cities.

120. Industrial development was also an area which was to be given due attention, especially with respect to human resources development, technological development, environment, integration of women in industrial development and promotion of the role of the private sector. The Conference noted that these issues provided an opportunity for ECA and UNIDO to enhance their fruitful cooperation through the joint implementation of IDDA II. It also requested that such cooperation should be extended to the other two regional institutions, i.e., OAU and ADB.

121. Other specific issues considered by the Conference were transport and communications, environment, youth, public health, refugees, debt and commodities. On the question of the environment, participants endorsed the African Common Position that will be submitted in June 1992 to the Rio de Janeiro World Conference on the Environment and Development. Many delegations drew attention to the grave socio-economic crisis in the Eastern and Southern African subregion arising from the prolonged, most devastating drought in the area's recorded history.

122. With respect to the question of youth, the Conference took note of the proposal for the establishment of an African youth development fund. It also expressed concern on the AIDS pandemic and the problem of the region's refugees. On the issue of external debt, the Conference took note of the approach being adopted by the secretariat to strengthen the region's repayment capacity and the management of its external debt. Efforts should also be made to negotiate debt cancellation or conversion. ECA was requested to work with ADB in coordinating the region's position on external debt.

123. The Conference stressed the importance it attached to the issue of commodity prices, and expressed appreciation for the work of the Common Fund for Commodities. It took note, in particular, of the results achieved since the Agreement establishing the Common Fund came into force more than two years earlier.

124. In his reaction to the debate, the Acting Executive Secretary provided the Conference with clarifications on a number of questions

that had been addressed to the secretariat. He also expressed further insights on the wide range of issues raised by the speakers.

125. In his summation, the Chairman observed that the questions of the youth, the role of women in development, demographic pressure, and the environment were all intricately linked. He noted with satisfaction the prominence that was accorded to these questions by ECA in seeking new directions for the 1990s. The Chairman cautioned, however, that when devising concrete solutions, such as the proposed youth development fund or the African women's bank, careful attention should be paid to all practical constraints, e.g., fiscal budgetary limitations, the external debt burden, and macroeconomic stability. He hoped Africans would be ready to shoulder the primary responsibility of resolving the problems that face the region. He appealed to Africa's partners-in-development to continue to support the efforts being made to cope, in particular, with the region's external debt burden.

126. The Chairman expressed his gratitude to all participants for their attendance and constructive contributions to the proceedings, which demonstrated their continuing commitment to the region.

Consideration of the Report of the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 6)

127. The Chairman of the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole presented the report of the Committee as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/22, for the consideration of the Conference. Discussion took place on the following items:

PART I: Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992

128. In considering paragraph 39 of the report, the Conference decided that the last sentence of the paragraph should be deleted.

PART II: Transformation, recovery and adjustment

129. In considering paragraph 52, the Conference decided that the last sentence should also reflect the need to revitalize the MULPOCs.

PART III: Issues, studies and reports on regional cooperation for development in Africa

130. Paragraph 71 was amended to read: "The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/8, entitled "Population issues in Africa: Recent developments and their implications for the African Regional Population Programme".

131. In paragraph 91 (b) of the French text, the Conference observed that the correct date for the African Statistics Day was the eighteenth day of November.

132. In paragraph 111 line one, the Conference inserted the word "joint" between "the" and "secretariat".

133. Under paragraph 113 line three, the Conference replaced the word "frame" by "adopt" and added the following: "Moreover, the Conference will review other important issues on environment and development. There are issues which are highly important to Africa, and have not yet been finalized. These are: financial resources, the international economic environment, conventions on climatic change and on biodiversity. Negotiations on those items would be finalized in Rio de Janeiro. African experts/delegations would meet on 1 and 2 June 1992 in order to harmonize their position on the issues pending. The Conference itself will be held from 3 to 14 June 1992."

134. In considering paragraph 115 of the French text of the report, the Conference directed that the last sentence should be aligned with the English text.

PART IV: Issues from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers

135. In paragraph 123, Namibia confirmed its acceptance to be a member of the Board of Governors of IDEP.

PART VII: Extrabudgetary resources and operational activities in ECA

136. In considering paragraph 142, the Conference reformulated the last sentence of the paragraph as follows: "Member States were also invited to allocate, where possible, a certain percentage of their UNDP national IPFs for the execution of the fifth intercountry programme for regional projects which had linkages with national projects".

137. Under paragraph 143, the Conference reformulated the last sentence as follows: "It reiterated its appeal for closer financial cooperation between both the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab and European States (RBAES) and the Regional Bureau for Africa for financing of multinational programmes for Africa".

ANNEX I: Draft resolutions and decisions recommended for adoption by the ECA Conference of Ministers

138. The Conference noted the withdrawal of reservations on preambular paragraph 7 and operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 12 in resolution 1 (XIII).

139. The Conference adopted the report including the resolutions and decisions as amended.

Report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the African Least Developed Countries (agenda item 7)

140. The Conference of Ministers took note of the report and resolutions of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/23.

Any other business (agenda item 8)

141. The representative of Morocco referred to proposals made by his delegation during the general debate, namely:

(a) That an African Ministerial Committee should meet between annual sessions of the Conference to provide guidance and directives to the secretariat on major issues affecting the continent;

(b) That a scientific seminar on the revival of planning for the subregion of North Africa should be organized with the assistance of UNDP;

(c) That strategic management in Africa should be promoted;

(d) That a brain-storming group on the problems confronting the IGOs should be set up to explore new mechanisms for the payment of assessed contributions, redirection of the objectives and mandates of those organizations in the light of changes taking place in Africa and elsewhere; and

(e) That an African youth development fund should be established at ADB and managed jointly by ECA, OAU and ADB.

142. He offered the assistance of his country in the implementation of these proposals.

143. The Conference discussed the various proposals and welcomed them in principle. It was noted that some of the proposals had already been accepted by the Conference in the preceding discussions. The Conference recognized the usefulness of inter-sessional meetings as one annual meeting was not sufficient to adequately deal with the burning issues that the region was confronted within a rapidly changing world. However, the Conference cautioned against the hasty adoption of proposals which might have far-reaching implications. The secretariat was requested to study the said proposals and make recommendations for the consideration of the Ministers at the next session of the Commission. In that regard, the secretariat could be assisted by a consultative committee of Ambassadors residing in Addis Ababa.

144. The Conference also requested the secretariat, in collaboration with ADB and OAU, to undertake a feasibility study on the creation of a youth development fund.

145. In referring to the planned meeting of the Conference in Lusaka in 1993, the Conference agreed that every effort should be made to limit the duration of the Ministerial session to three days.

146. The Acting Executive Secretary noted that African Governments were becoming more conscious of the magnitude of the problem of refugees, and of its impact on population environment, and other factors. It would therefore be useful for the United Nations and OAU secretariats to address the root causes of the problem for the sake of the economic and social development of the region.

Date and venue and other matters to the twenty-eighth session of the Commission/nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 9)

147. In considering this item, the Conference accepted by acclamation the generous invitation extended to it by the representative of Zambia to host the twenty-eighth session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers in 1993 in Lusaka, Zambia.

148. The Conference decided that the next session of the Commission would take place during the month of April, in 1993. The precise dates of the meeting will be established following consultations between the Executive Secretary and the host country. The Conference reconfirmed its acceptance of the invitation of the Government of Zambia to hold the next session in Lusaka, Zambia.

Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting (agenda item 10)

149. The Conference adopted the present report as well as the final declaration and a message to H.E. Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 11)

150. On behalf of the Conference of Ministers, the head of the delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania moved a vote of thanks expressing appreciation to His Excellency Ato Meles Zenawi, President of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia, the Government and people of Ethiopia for the hospitality and cooperation extended to the Commission and all participants in the recent ECA meetings and which had resulted in the success of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission.

151. On behalf of the secretariat, the Acting Executive Secretary of ECA expressed gratitude to the Conference for the confidence it had shown in the Commission and the support it had provided to him and the secretariat by adopting the New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s. He further expressed appreciation for the recommendations made to enhance the effectiveness, competitiveness and credibility of the Commission. He assured the Conference of Ministers that its recommendations would be implemented expeditiously and that a progress report concerning their implementation would be submitted to the next meeting of the Conference. He also thanked all the observers representing Africa's development partners for their active participation in the meeting and looked forward to their increased support for African development in the coming years. He paid a special tribute to the United Nations Secretary-General for his support towards the Commission. Finally, he expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Zambia for its generous invitation for the twenty-eighth session of the Commission to be convened in Lusaka, Zambia in 1993.

152. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers appealed to member States to cooperate more intensively with each other in an effort to solve Africa's economic and social problems. He expressed the view that the new mandate given to the ECA secretariat would enhance the Commission's responsiveness to the needs of member States. He finally expressed his appreciation to all who had contributed to the success of the Conference.

153. He then declared the meeting closed.

D. Programme of work and priorities

154. In 1991, 91.5 per cent of the total output programmed was delivered by the substantive divisions of the secretariat. Of the remaining outputs, 2 per cent was imple-

mented after reformulation, 5 per cent postponed to the next biennium and the remainder terminated. During the biennium 1990-1991, the programme performance at the output level was satistactory compared to 1988-1989 biennium. The rate of implementation of outputs programmed for 1990-1991 was 91 per cent compared to 88 per cent in the previous biennium. The main reason for the termination of outputs was failure to get expected extrabudgetary resources for backstopping and operational activities. Two outputs were also terminated due to the reduction of the frequency of meetings of a subsidiary organ.

LIST OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING

A. Resolutions

Number	Title	Page
726 (XXVII)	Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s	41
727 (XXVII)	Implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community	43
728 (XXVII)	Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: Strengthening the role and functions of the regional commissions	43
729 (XXVII)	The African debt crisis	44
730 (XXVII)	The role of indigenous banking and financial institutions in the mobilization of financial resources for development	45
731 (XXVII)	Anticipated impact of new developments in the European Monetary System on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries and the need to accelerate monetary integration in Africa	45
732 (XXVII)	Information systems for African economic development and integration	46
733 (XXVII)	Strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Lagos Plan of Action in the 1990s	47
734 (XXVII)	Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s	48
735 (XXVII)	Short-term forecasting in Africa	49
736 (XXVII)	Women and access to resources in the 1990s	49
737 (XXVII)	The role of women in conflict resolution	50
738 (XXVII)	Science and technology for development	50
739 (XXVII)	Adoption of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II)	51
740 (XXVII)	Human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa	53
741 (XXVII)	The work programme and budget of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development for 1992-1994	54

Decisions

Number	Title	Page
DEC.1 (XXVII)	Industrial development in Africa	55
DEC.2 (XXVII)	Implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa	55
DEC.3 (XXVII)	Second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	55
DEC.4 (XXVII)	Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Techology Development: Establishment of the Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development	56
DEC.5 (XXVII)	Seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: Appointment of the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning	56
DEC.6 (XXVII)	Thirteenth meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development	56

CHAPTER IV

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING

A. Resolutions

726 (XXVII). Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) of 29 April 1958 and amended by its resolutions 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the various resolutions that have implications on the mandate and operations of the Commission including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, General Assembly resolutions 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 44/211 of 21 December 1989,

Noting with appreciation the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of Commission resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional economic commissions,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of 19 December 1990, 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and those located in developing countries strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization process,

Reiterating the validity of the general orientation of the work programme of the Commission as outlined in the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997, including the identified individual subprogrammes,

Convinced that the many and important changes that are taking place in the member States of the Commission, the international environment as well as in the United Nations system as a whole will necessitate new approaches by the Commission in carrying out its mandate and new relationships with its constituency and partners, with a view to increasing its impact,

Having examined the in-depth analysis made by the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/4, entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges",

1. Congratulates the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission for the initiative he took to establish a Task Force to review and appraise the Commission's policy orientation, programmes and management capacity and for the excellent analysis of the pertinent issues and useful and innovative proposals he has made;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that there is a clear and concrete balance between the research and operational activities of the secretariat of the Commission and to sharply focus all such activities of the Commission on the specific realities and characteristics of the African region and of individual subregions;

3. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that its activities are fully grounded in sound data and information systems, through the strengthening of the Pan-African Development Information System, which should be provided with adequate financial resources;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is geared to the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of the Commission with regard to: strengthening its advisory role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting private initiative and entrepreneurship; promoting the development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; securing the structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promotion of women in development;

5. Welcomes the process of frequent and close consultations of the secretariat with the member States and donors through the regular briefing sessions held with their representatives in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

6. Recommends the establishment, within existing resources, of a consultative mechanism that would advise the Executive Secretary on the grouping of conferences along specific themes, including scheduling and the preparation of conferences, meetings, seminars, and workshops, taking into account the need to harmonize them with those of the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, to avoid duplication and achieve greater efficiency;

7. Urges the Executive Secretary of the Commission to explore every possibility of establishing or strengthening the relationships of the Commission with African intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies and non-governmental organizations including, in particular, the possibility of establishing joint units or special programmes with the various United Nations specialized agencies, and the creation of a special unit within the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate its increased joint activities with non-governmental organizations;

8. Expresses appreciation to the General Assembly for providing additional resources to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and consequently recommends that in conformity with Commission resolution 702 (XXV) of 19 May 1990 on transforming and strengthening the MUPLOCs of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Centres should be further strengthened through redeployment of resources and be given specific assignments with respect to technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of joint projects of member States within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations, in their respective subregions, and thus be enabled to act as the major subregional focal points for the collection and dissemination of information on all aspects of economic cooperation and integration;

9. Also expresses its gratitude to the General Assembly for providing a grant to the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning for funding four additional posts for the 1992-1993 biennium thus enabling the Institute to contribute to the process of strengthening the operational capacity of the Commission in meeting the challenges facing Africa in the 1990s, and requests the redeployment of resources which would enable the Institute to assume additional responsibility;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to undertake a thorough examination of the problems and constraints facing the ECA-sponsored institutions and subsequently to make concrete proposals aimed at alleviating their various problems including consideration of such options as the merging of some of the institutions;

11. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to increase their financial and other forms of assistance to the Commission to enable it to shoulder its responsibilities to the member States by

conducting extrabudgetary operational activities;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake, as may become necessary, reforms in the structure of the secretariat so as to achieve full consistency with the new orientations recommended herein so as to boost the efficiency and capability of the secretariat as an effective tool for the economic and social development of Africa;

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution to the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and twenty-eighth session of the Commission.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

727 (XXVII). Implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the importance and complexity of the establishment and successful operation of the African Economic Community,

Recalling its resolution 708 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991 requesting the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, to provide all necessary technical assistance to the future African Economic Community,

Conscious of the concerted and coordinated efforts needed to mobilize the potentials of the subregional economic communities, on the one hand, and the resources of the Commission/African Development Bank and the Organization of African Unity, on the other, for launching the process of regional economic integration,

Convinced of the necessity of strengthening the subregional economic communities as organs of the African Economic Community,

Noting with great satisfaction the excellent working relations which existed among the three regional organizations during the preparation of the Treaty on the African Economic Community,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the President of the African Development Bank to make every possible effort to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community upon entry into force of the said Treaty;

2. Urges the three chief executives to further strengthen their cooperation by pooling their available respective resources to set up a coordinating team for the Joint Secretariat so as:

   (a) To act jointly as the think-tank in the economic integration process of the continent;

   (b) To channel and coordinate the use of the resources of the three organizations towards the effective implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

3. Finally requests the three chief executives to approach the United Nations Development Programme, the European Economic Community and other bilateral and multilateral donors with a view to securing such funds as would enable the Joint Secretariat to perform its duties effectively.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

728 (XXVII). Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: Strengthening the role and functions of the regional commissions

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) of 29 April 1958 and amended by its resolutions 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the Economic and Social Council's decision to endorse ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 718 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991 on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the Economic Commission for Africa, Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of December 1990, 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and those located in developing countries should be strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization process,

Convinced that the Economic Commission for Africa plays a vital catalytic role in the coordination and execution of intercountry programmes and projects aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and integration, especially by pursuing the establishment of the African Economic Community,

1. Reaffirms the continuing validity of the role of the regional economic commissions as important organs of the United Nations for promoting the socio-economic development of their respective regions;
2. Appeals to the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the context of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, due recognition is accorded to the vital role of the regional commissions.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

729 (XXVII). The African debt crisis

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling that the African Common Position on Africa's External Indebtedness adopted by the extraordinary summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in December 1987 remains the framework without which no lasting solution to the African debt problem can be achieved,*

Recalling further that the African debt crisis persists notwithstanding the various economic programmes undertaken by member countries, at times, at great socio-economic and political cost,

Noting that notwithstanding the various debt-relief initiatives that have been so far announced to alleviate the debt burden of African countries, the debt crisis still persists and constitutes a major obstacle to the socio-economic recovery of the African continent as a whole,

Aware that although some laudable initiatives have been announced by creditor countries, these, to a large extent, remain unimplemented and have been discriminatory against middle-income countries which continue to suffer from indebtedness,

Convinced that a lasting solution to Africa's external debt crisis remains necessary for the sustained recovery of African economies,

1. Welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make alleviation of the debt burden of the poorest countries of the world a major priority area for the United Nations during his term of office;
2. Further welcomes the initiative of the Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa for having organized the Africa Debt Day in New York in October 1991 which proved a useful forum for impressing upon the international community the persistence of Africa's external indebtedness;
3. Calls upon member States to devote greater effort to debt management at the national level, while at the same time taking care not to marginalize the contribution of certain important segments of the international community, especially influential citizens, government officials and prominent persons from creditor countries in resolving the debt issue;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue in his efforts to make the African/African-American Forum and other like-minded organizations important avenues for bringing African economic and social

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* Adopted with reservations from the delegation of Morocco.

issues to the attention of the international community;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director-General of the African Centre for Monetary Studies, to continue to provide technical assistance to African countries at their request with a view to enabling them to find a durable solution to the debt problem in its totality including that of African middle-income countries;

6. Calls upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the next meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance on new initiatives that will have been taken to deal with the African debt problem (including debts owed to multilateral institutions) within a framework which establishes a linkage between debt, trade and development.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

730 (XXVII). The role of indigenous banking and financial institutions in the mobilization of financial resources for development

The Conference of Ministers,

Concerned that most of the African financial institutions operating in Africa have been ineffective in mobilizing financial resources to finance the development process on the continent,

Further concerned that the imbalances between the volume of savings and investment requirements remains large in most African countries and have perpetuated the overdependence of African countries on external development financing,

Aware that the low level of domestic savings in Africa is partly due to the low levels of per capita income in most African countries, inadequate financial networks and substantial budget deficits incurred to finance unproductive investments,

Further aware of the need for complementarity between the implementation of broad macroeconomic adjustment policies (such as economic liberalization of privatization policies) with a view to broadening and deepening financial intermediation in Africa so as to secure effective resource mobilization,

1. Calls upon African countries to pursue appropriate policies that will help to raise the real incomes and savings of the African people, especially those in the rural areas, as well as implement financial reform programmes aimed at broadening and deepening the financial intermediation process;

2. Invites African countries, with the technical support of the Executive Secretary, if called upon, to carry out case studies with a view to identifying and eliminating obstacles to the mobilization of domestic and external resources for financing economic development in Africa and thereby reduce the continent's overdependence on external resources to finance this process.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

731 (XXVII). Anticipated impact of new developments in the European Monetary System on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries and the need to accelerate monetary integration in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the rapid pace of monetary and financial integration currently taking place in the European Economic Community and the decision by the Community members to adopt a single European currency by the year 1999,

Considering that these developments will have an impact on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries by virtue of the relationships between the African economies and those of countries of the European Economic Community,

Mindful of the importance of coordinated monetary and financial policies in the integration process and aware of the debilitating impact of uncoordinated monetary policies on Africa's economic integration process,

Recalling the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and in particular its provisions on monetary integration, Taking note of the preliminary analysis undertaken by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa to evaluate the impact of these new developments in the European Monetary System on the major macroeconomic variables of African economies,

Further taking note of the possible impending association of the CFA franc zone in the new arrangements of the European Monetary System,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director-General of the African Centre for Monetary Studies to assist member States in monitoring the evolution of the international monetary systems, including the European Monetary System, and in evaluating their possible impact on the macroeconomic variables and integration of African countries;

2. Also calls upon African countries to accelerate the ratification of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

732 (XXVII). Information systems for African economic development and integration

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 498 (XIX) of 26 May 1984, 600 (XXII) of 24 April 1987, 658 (XXIV) of 9 April 1989, 679 (XXV) of 19 May 1990, 716 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991,

Concerned by the widening North-South gap in the flow of vital information as well as in the acquisition and utilization of information technology,

Conscious of the information needs to foster African economic cooperation, in particular through the establishment of the African Economic Community,

Bearing in mind the need to establish data networks and data bases, as specified in articles 42, 49 and 51 of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, signed by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in Abuja, 1991,

Recognizing the need for further transfer of and training in up-to-date information technology in the African region,

Noting with satisfaction the performance of the Pan-African Development Information System in the delivery of technical assistance to member States since the last session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers in 1990,

Appreciative of the efforts of the Pan-African Development Information System to improve its existing information system to assist African member States in their development efforts as well as of its efforts to sensitize them to the importance of utilizing appropriate information technology,

Taking note of the recommendations of the United Nations Development Programme In-depth Evaluation of the Pan-African Development Information System (1990) and the study of user needs presented to the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 7 March 1992,

Recognizing the leadership role of the System in the creation and implementation of harmonized and standardized data bases and information systems in the African region,

Noting with concern the financial situation of the System, with United Nations Development Programme funding scheduled to end on 31 March 1992,

1. Urges member States in order to receive delivery of the System's technical assistance in information system development:

   (a) To use their United Nations Development Programme country Indicative Planning Figures (IPFs);

   (b) To consider the System in their pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

   (c) To use, where appropriate, the financial provisions under the

Lome IV Convention;

2. Urges also member States which are hosting subregional centres to accelerate the process of their establishment and support their continuation;

3. Calls upon member States which have not yet done so to promulgate national information policies;

4. Further calls upon member States to adopt policies related to the acquisition and utilization of appropriate information technology;

5. Invites member States to declare 19 November as "African Development Information Day";

6. Urgently appeals to bilateral and other multilateral donors to support the Pan-African Development Information System;

7. Strongly urges the United Nations Development Programme to continue funding the System's technical assistance activities on behalf of member States by providing financial resources under the Fifth Programming Cycle;

8. Requests the System to continue its leadership role in the coordination of development information and in maintaining and developing its information system to respond to Africa's pressing development problems;

9. Further requests the System to assist its network members, comprising national, subregional and institutional participating centres, in securing financial assistance to develop their information activities to more effectively support the development planning process as well as to strengthen their participation in the PADIS network;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue to explore ways and means of securing regular budget posts for the Pan-African Development Information System in order to ensure its continuation;

11. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue his efforts, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, to harmonize and standardize information sources and systems to support the African Economic Community and to facilitate regional economic cooperation.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

733 (XXVII). Strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Lagos Plan of Action in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in Lagos (1980),

Recalling its resolution 705 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991 on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos at national, subregional and regional levels based on the decennial review and appraisal of the Plan of Action and the Final Act,

Convinced that the objectives, priorities and strategies of the Lagos Plan of Action are still valid for the 1990s and beyond,

Recalling that the 1990s is the last decade for the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action,

1. Reaffirms its faith in and full adherence to the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos as Africa's basic programme for socio-economic development and transformation in the 1990s and beyond;

2. Calls upon African countries to strengthen their machinery for the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos at national and subregional levels and to ensure that the objectives, strategies and priorities of the Plan of Action are fully incorporated in the objectives, strategies and priorities of national plans and subregional and regional programmes and plans of action;

3. Calls upon the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank to jointly monitor and assist in the establishment of follow-up and monitoring mechanisms of implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos to enable the national governments to evaluate adequately the progress accomplished in its implementation as well as at global and sectoral levels,

national and subregional levels and to report thereon biennially with effect from 1994 to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity through the ECA Conference of Ministers;

4. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate and harmonize its efforts with those undertaken by the Commission, the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank in assisting countries and subregional organizations in the development of the implementation, follow-up and monitoring mechanisms of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos;

5. Invites the United Nations Development Programme and other donors to provide financial support to African Governments for the establishment of such machinery.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

734 (XXVII). Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 683 (XXV) of May 1990 on the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s,

Noting with satisfaction that an Intergovernmental Working Group met in Nairobi in July 1991 to further review and elaborate on the principles, objectives and recommendations of this Plan of Action and formulate detailed strategies for its implementation,

Taking note of the report of the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, especially as regards the Strategy for the Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action,

Noting further with satisfaction the establishment of the Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development under the sponsorship of the Commission and the United Nations Development Programme,

Concerned with the limited resources available while it is essential to have reliable and up-to-date data for designing, monitoring and evaluating short-term policy reforms and long-term planning to support the current efforts to transform and restructure African economies,

1. Adopts the Strategy for the Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;

2. Appeals to all parties concerned, including African Governments, international organizations, multilateral and bilateral agencies and institutions, to use the Strategy referred to above as an overall framework for development of statistics in Africa in the 1990s;

3. Urges member States to set up Needs Assessment/Programme Review and Strategy Development Teams as soon as possible to draw lessons from past experiences and to identify needs and priorities, taking into account local conditions and the state of statistical development, and to formulate draft five- to ten-year national statistical development plans;

4. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to provide during its fifth Intercountry Programming Cycle sufficient resources to the Commission for the regional operational support to the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;

5. Calls upon other agencies to provide complementary resources to the Commission for the regional operations in respect of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action;

6. Further calls upon all interested donor agencies to assist countries in establishing national statistical development funds, as recommended in the Addis Ababa Plan of Action, for meeting assessed statistical needs in accordance with national plans and priorities;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the Conference of Ministers every two years on progress made on this Plan of Action.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

735 (XXVII). Short-term economic forecasting in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 500 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 urging African counties to undertake and strengthen short-term outlook activities and provide subregional outlooks,

Recalling its resolution 575 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 in which it called upon bilateral and multilateral donors, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to provide financial assistance to individual African countries and the Economic Commission for Africa for the effective and speedy establishment of short-term economic forecasting systems,

Having noted the slow progress in the establishment of the short-term forecasting systems in individual African countries due to financial constraints,

Considering the importance to establish forecasting systems in African countries to serve as early warning mechanisms for countries to analyze and undertake short-term adjustment with transformation measures in response to external and internal disturbances,

1. Requests the secretariat of the Commission to continue to strengthen and expand its work on short-term economic forecasting in close collaboration with national planning organs, African multilateral institutions and research institutions so as to ensure that African countries have the necessary tools and skills for effective economic management;

2. Calls upon bilateral and multilateral donors, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to provide assistance to the Commission, as a matter of urgency, to enable it to institute short-term economic forecasting systems in African countries on a sustainable basis and to enable the Commission to collect and collate the various country models for the benefit of sharing experience among African countries.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

736 (XXVII). Women and access to resources in the 1990s

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the reports of the Subregional Committees on Women in Development which have met earlier in the year,

Gratified by the efforts made by a number of countries to implement the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s, and aware that the full implementation of the Declaration requires greater commitment on the part of member States,

Taking note of the elections that have taken place at the subregional and regional levels for membership at Multinational Programming and Operational Centre and at Africa Regional Coordinating Committee level,

Commending the Commission's efforts to establish a federation of African women entrepreneurs,

Realizing the importance that an African bank for women can play in the advancement of women,

1. Commends the member States which have initiated efforts to implement the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in the 1990s and calls on those member States which have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary steps to do so;

2. Urges member States to step up their activities related to the progressive revision of their legal texts by drafting family codes, strengthening the schooling of young girls and the elimination of illiteracy among women; establishing a data bank for women; promoting trade between countries in products produced by women; and the creation of the necessary policy environment at the national level for the operation of small and medium enterprises initiated by women;

3. Urges the Executive Secretary of the Commission to reserve posts for women in each Multinational Programming and Operational Centre in order to revitalize the Centres' programme for women;

4. Appeals to member States to pledge a large percentage of their United Nations

Trust Fund for African Development contribution to the respective Multinational Programming and Operational Centres towards the programme for women which should include coordination, dissemination of information, and the strengthening of national machineries for the advancement of women;

5. Expresses appreciation to those member States in which associations of women entrepreneurs have been established and urges those which have not yet done so to encourage the establishment of such associations;

6. Recommends that the Commission should facilitate the establishment of the federation of African women entrepreneurs and requests both the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Development Fund for Women to provide financial, material and technical support for the setting up of a secretariat for the federation;

7. Recommends that the Economic Commission for Africa, working with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, should study the possibility of creating an African bank for women;

8. Appeals to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to provide the necessary support related to the establishment of the federation of African women entrepreneurs and the study for the African bank for women.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

737 (XXVII). The role of women in conflict resolution

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women with regard to peace and development,

Recalling the Declaration of Abuja on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in the 1990s and its appeal to African Governments to put an end to internal strife, civil wars and abuses of human rights which are depleting the continent of its valuable human resources,

Convinced that peace is a prerequisite for development,

Aware that many women experience the hazards of civil conflicts, slave labour, hunger, malnutrition and human degradation,

1. Urges Governments to ensure that women are part of all peace initiatives and negotiations at all levels in their respective countries;

2. Supports the initiative of the Uganda Government to hold a Regional Conference on Women for Peace which will provide a forum for women leaders of the region to propose strategies for the establishment and maintenance of peace in the region and propose programmes for alleviating the adverse effects of civil conflicts on women;

3. Urges member States to facilitate the effective participation of women in the Regional Conference;

4. Requests the Commission and the Organization of African Unity to assist the country in the organization of the Conference and to report thereon to their respective policy organs.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

738 (XXVII). Science and technology for development

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Commission resolution 248 (XI) of 22 February 1973 by which it established the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling also its resolution 385 (XV) which opened the membership of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology for Development to all African member States,

Noting the special appeal in operative paragraph 4 which called on member States to designate focal points for the work of the Intergovernmental Committee and to ensure continuity in their representation on the Committee,

Recognizing that since the establishment of the Committee in 1973, the issues of science and technology in the region have grown rapidly in importance and complexity, and that member States are opting for a coordinated approach in tackling these issues,

Recognizing that in view of the priority being given to science and technology as an essential tool for the proper exploitation of Africa's natural resources, many member States have set up Ministries of Science and Technology and that the number of such ministries has increased,

Recalling that the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, which was signed by African Heads of State and Government at the Organization of African Unity Summit held in Abuja in June 1991, places considerable emphasis on the role of science and technology in the future development of the African continent, and calls for specific action to strengthen the technological capabilities of member States and to promote technological self-reliance,

Convinced that the attainment of the science and technology objectives of the African Economic Community will require concerted action by the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank and contributions from the African intergovernmental science and technology institutions, and relevant international organizations in the development and consolidation of common strategies and policies,

1. Urges member States to take explicit measures, individually and collectively, to build up their endogenous capabilities in science and technology;
2. Further urges member States to participate effectively in the subregional and regional initiatives being taken with a view to achieve the science and technology targets set in the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to prepare a report to be submitted to the next session of the Commission on the possibility of establishing a Conference of African Ministers of Science and Technology for Development.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

739 (XXVII). Adoption of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II)*

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/66B of 1980 that had proclaimed the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II);

Bearing in mind the report on the independent mid-term evaluation team of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa prepared by the members of the evaluation team that had shown, inter alia, that the first Decade had not attained the expected results,

Recalling resolution 2 (IX) adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its ninth meeting held from 29 May to 1 June 1989 in Harare, Zimbabwe concerning the proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the formulation of a programme for the Decade,

Recalling resolution AHG/Res.180 (XXV) of July 1989 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity requesting, inter alia, the proclamation of a second IDDA;

Recalling further resolution GC.3/10 of 23 November 1989, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its third session which had also called for the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Noting Commission resolution 709 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991 on the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) which, inter alia, had mandated the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to submit to the

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* Morocco expressed its reservations in respect of the fourth, ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs.

General Assembly, at its forty-sixth regular session, through the Economic and Social Council, the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa together with the recommendations concerning practical mechanisms of its implementation and monitoring and including modalities for the mobilization of funds needed to finance the programme at the national, subregional, regional and international levels,

Pointing out that due to the unanticipated postponement of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry from 10 to 12 June 1991 to 29 to 31 July 1991, it had not been possible to submit the programme of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1991 held in July 1991 and consequently, it had also not been possible to submit the programme to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth regular session,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 that had proclaimed 1991-2000 as the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day,

Welcoming the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community by African Heads of State and Government at the Summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity held in Abuja, Nigeria on 3 June 1991,

Mindful of the important implications of the said Treaty, especially its article 48 on industry,

1. Decides to adopt a programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) covering the national, subregional and regional components contained in document CAMI.10/6:ICE/1991/6/Vol.1 and Vol.2;

2. Decides to establish a ten-member working group, to be appointed by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry each biennium, comprising the members of the current Bureau and five additional members representing each of the subregions, to monitor the progress made in implementing the programme;

3. Requests the secretariats of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Commission, in coordination with other appropriate international financial and technical agencies and in conformity with the mechanisms provided for under subregional and regional programmes, to ensure the implementation of the programme;

4. Requests the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to submit the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa to the fourth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, through the Industrial Development Board at its resumed eighth session;

5. Appeals to the fourth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to endorse the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and to extend its full support to it by allocating adequate resources to UNIDO to assist African countries and subregional organizations in implementing both the national and subregional components of the programme;

6. Further requests the twenty-seventh session of the ECA Conference of Ministers to submit the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa for adoption to the forty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1992 and requests the General Assembly to provide the Commission with increased resources to enable it to effectively assist African countries and subregional organizations in the implementation and monitoring of the programme at the national, subregional and regional levels;

7. Appeals to African countries and African intergovernmental organizations, particularly financial institutions, to take the necessary measures to ensure the successful implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and to give priority to the mobilization of their own financial resources for the implementation and monitoring of the programme;

8. Also appeals to the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral funding institutions, to

increase significantly their contributions to the industrial sector in African countries, so as to ensure the successful and sustained implementation of the programme;

9. Specifically urges international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, to extend their full support to the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and to ensure its effective implementation at the national and subregional levels;

10. Further appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to allocate, under the regional component of its fifth programming cycle for Africa (1992-1996), adequate resources for supporting the activities of the programme;

11. Requests the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to undertake follow-up actions for promoting national, subregional and regional activities in support of the programme and jointly submit biannual reports on the implementation of the programme to the ECA Conference of Ministers and the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization through the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

740 (XXVII). Human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the recommendations made and the resolutions adopted at its third meeting as well as the decisions taken at its fourth meeting on the need to intensify efforts to improve on human conditions and human resources development within the continent and to intensify efforts to monitor the status of human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa,

Conscious of the many laudable initiatives taken by African Governments, non-governmental organizations and the international community at large to assist in the development and more effective utilization of human resources in African countries,

Noting with regret that, in spite of these efforts and initiatives, the indicators of human development have continued to worsen,

Aware of the nefarious consequences of such trends on Africa's prospects for socio-economic transformation and development in the long term,

1. Urges member States to give priority to the human dimension and to the implementation of an integrated approach to human resources planning, development and utilization, particularly as expressed in the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa;

2. Urges further all member States to redouble their efforts and make the necessary resource allocations to improve the quality of education at all levels, to increase the relevance of education, training and research in their institutions of higher learning in furtherance of the transformation and sustained development of their economies, to promote the growth of employment in all sectors of their economies, to re-build development executive capacities, and to stem the tide of the brain-drain, and undertake reforms in higher education;

3. Commends the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Human Resources Development and Utilization for the elaboration of the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa and calls on it to intensify its efforts for the coordination of United Nations activities at the regional level in the field of human resources development and utilization;

4. Calls upon the international community and the United Nations agencies to give full support to the strategy and priorities espoused in the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, make greater use of local consultants and expertise in development projects funded by them and urges the United Nations Development Programme to implement the Pilot Programme on Integrated

Human Resources Development;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to intensify the Commission's efforts to assist African Governments in strengthening their human resources planning, development and utilization capacities;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to pursue, with vigour, the various measures instituted to assist in reversing the brain-drain, especially the Economic Commission for Africa/Intergovernmental Committee for Migration Return of Skills Programme for Africa, and to promptly implement the Regional Programme for the Exchange of African Experts on a pilot basis;

7. Calls upon the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration to increase its support to the Return of Skills Programme for Africa operated by the Commission within the regional framework set by African Governments, and also to contribute resources to the Commission's Regional Programme for the Exchange of African Experts.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

741 (XXVII). The work programme and budget of the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development for 1992-1994

The Conference of Ministers

Recalling resolution 540 (XX) of 1985 which decided to establish an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development as an institution that will contribute in addressing the climate and environment related causes of African economic crises,

Also recalling resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987 which established the Centre, adopted its Constitution and located the Centre in Niamey, Republic of the Niger,

Further recalling of the importance of resolution 651 (XXIII) of 1988 on the mobilization of resources from member States for the recurrent budget of the Centre,

Fully aware of other resolutions that have been adopted on the matter of making the Centre operational,

Having examined the report of the fourth meeting of the Board of Governors of the Centre,

Noting with regret that the Centre is facing serious resource problems in meeting the recurrent expenditures for the operations of the Centre,

Appreciative of the fact that the Centre has begun to realize some of its objectives by the dissemination of some of its products for the use of member States,

Concerned that despite these encouraging efforts, the Centre does not have sufficient financial resources from member States to meet the recurrent expenditures,

Determined to see that the Centre is fully supported financially by member States to meet the social and economic development objectives of the Centre,

1. Approves the budget of the Centre as proposed;

2. Decides that the initial year for payment of contributions shall be 1989, the year following the adoption of the scale of contribution;

3. Urges all member States which have not yet done so to ratify the Constitution of the Centre as soon as possible;

4. Further urges member States to support the Centre by seconding their scientists for short periods and at their expense to participate in the implementation of the programmes of the Centre;

5. Calls upon all member States that have not as yet made any payments of their contributions to do so as soon as possible, with effect from 1989;

6. Further calls upon those member States that have honoured some of their contributions but are still in arrears to pay them as soon as possible;

7. Expresses its appreciation to those member States and donors who have honoured their pledge to support the Centre;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to investigate the possibility of member States making their contributions through the local United Nations Development Programme offices

in local currency;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the next Conference of Ministers on the implementation of the present resolution as well as the functioning of the Centre.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

B. Decisions

DEC.1 (XXVII). Industrial development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, having taken note of the report on the programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II),

1. Endorses the resolution of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry adopting the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;
2. Recommends that, upon transmittal through the summer regular session of the Economic and Social Council, the IDDA II programme should be adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;
3. Requests the General Assembly to substantially increase resources provided to the Commission for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa so as to strengthen its capacity to effectively assist member States and subregional organizations in the implementation of the programme;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to submit to the next session of the Commission a harmonization plan through the sectoral conferences of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade and second Industrial Development Decade for Africa programmes;
5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to do his utmost in order to strengthen cooperation between the secretariats of the Commission and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, particularly with regard to industrial policy, programmes and project formulation at the subregional and regional levels.

281st meeting.
22 April 1992.

DEC.2 (XXVII). Implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, taking note of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on the progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa:

1. Urges member States to establish national coordination committees and revitalize their operation where they exist;
2. Requests the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary budgetary resources to enable it to effectively and efficiently carry out all the responsibilities and additional activities mandated to it in resolution 46/456 of 1991 as lead agency and coordinator of the second Decade programme.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

DEC.3 (XXVII) Amendment to the Statutes of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Conference of Ministers,

Endorses the amendments to articles V and IX of the Statute of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) proposed at the second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of UNAFRI to read as follows:

ARTICLE V

Governing Board: Composition and functions

The Governing Board shall consist of:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), or his representative, who shall be ex-officio chairman of the Governing Board as representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations".

ARTICLE IX

Financial resources of the Institute

"Without any prejudice to possible financing of core staff and recurrent operations of the Institute from the regular budget of the United Nations, the Institute shall derive its financial resources from annual contributions made by member States as determined by the Conference of Ministers and from voluntary contributions by donors."

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

DEC.4 (XXVII) Establishment of a Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted at the next session on the possibilities of the establishment of a Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development.

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

DEC.5 (XXVII) Appointment of members of the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning

The Conference of Ministers,

Approves the appointment of the following countries to the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP):

North Africa:Sudan, Tunisia

Central Africa:Burundi, Cameroon

Eastern and Southern Africa:Namibia

West Africa:Guinea, Nigeria, Togo

281st meeting,

22 April 1992.

DEC.6 (XXVII) Integration of women in development

(a) Recommendation for the nomination of an African Woman Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women

The Conference of Ministers,

Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint an African woman to the post of Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women, 4 to 15 September 1995, Beijing, China.

(b) Appointment of the members of the Subregional Committee and ARCC Bureaux

The Conference of Ministers,

Endorses the appointment of the following as members of the Subregional Committee and ARCC Bureaux for the period 1992-1994:

(i) Gisenyi MULPOC

Zaire: Chairperson

Burundi: Vice-Chairperson

Rwanda: Rapporteur

(ii) Lusaka MULPOC

Uganda: Chairperson

Namibia: Vice-Chairperson

Zambia: Rapporteur

(iii) Niamey MULPOC

Burkina Faso: Chairperson

Niger: Vice-Chairperson

Nigeria: Rapporteur

(iv) Tangier MULPOC

Morocco: Chairperson

Tunisia: Vice-Chairperson

Algeria: Rapporteur

(v) Yaounde MULPOC

Cameroon: Chairperson

Central African Rep.: Vice-Chairperson

Congo: Rapporteur

Africa Regional Coordinating Committee

President: Nigeria
First Vice-President: Central Afr. Rep.
Second Vice-President: Rwanda
First Rapporteur: Uganda
Second Rapporteur: Algeria

(c) Agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women

The Conference of Ministers took note of the draft agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women.

281st meeting,
22 April 1992.

Annex I

FINAL DECLARATION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA AND EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1. We, the African Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning, held the twenty-seventh session of the Commission and eighteenth meeting of our Conference from 20 to 23 April 1992 in Addis Ababa. Against the backdrop of the recent dramatic changes that have taken place and continue to evolve in Africa and the rest of the world, we chose as the theme of our conference **New Directions for the Commission in the 1990s**. This theme was intended to signify new and emerging challenges confronting African countries. The Economic Commission for Africa, whose main mission is to promote the socio-economic development and transformation of African countries, has an important role to play in assisting African member States to adapt to these changes. This was the setting in which we conducted an in-depth debate on both the current economic and social situation in Africa and the policy paper on new directions entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges".

2. We commend the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for his initiative and efforts in charting new directions for the activities of the Commission. We are convinced that the changes that have taken place in Africa and the rest of the world in the past few years and the accompanying challenges justify adjustment in ECA's orientation, programmes and management capacity with a view to ensuring greater impact of its activities. We consider such a re-orientation to be consistent with the reforms already underway in the rest of the United Nations system.

3. We underline the need for vigorous efforts to be made in implementing the reforms needed to make ECA adapt to the changes. We further invite the Executive Secretary of ECA to involve member States actively in the reform process, especially using the informal consultative mechanism between the ECA secretariat and African diplomatic missions resident in Addis Ababa.

4. We endorse the areas of focus for ECA's programme delivery in the new orientation, which are in accordance with existing priorities. These are namely strengthening ECA's advocacy role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting private initiatives and entrepreneurship; development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; promoting structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and the promotion of women in development. We call upon ECA to take due account of the role of youth in development of member States.

5. We are aware of the need for ECA to stimulate increased participation at its meetings and conferences by reducing their number and frequency and concentrating such meetings on specific themes. We, therefore, entrust the Executive Secretary with conducting an in-depth study of these matters including the possibility of establishing a steering ministerial committee to meet inter-sessionally. This study should be submitted to the next session of the Conference for consideration.

6. We emphasize the need for the MULPOCs to be revitalized to enable them to play their role which will consist essentially of promoting integration and socio-economic development in the subregions. We call on ECA to make action-oriented and innovative proposals on this issue. We also invite ECA to conduct an in-depth study in consultation with OAU on the rationalization and re-organization of its sponsored institutions and submit a report to us at our twenty-eighth session.

7. We encourage intensified multi-faceted collaboration among ECA, OAU and ADB consistent with the need to ensure that the full potentials of all African institutions and organizations are mobilized for the promotion of Africa's

socio-economic development and integration. In particular, we urge them to strengthen their present joint secretariat arrangement to make it an important vehicle for implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

8. We recognize that extrabudgetary resources have played and will continue to play an important role in ECA's implementation of its work programmes in accordance with its priorities. At the same time, we note with concern that these resources which accounted for approximately 40 per cent of total ECA financial resources in 1985-1991 are projected to decline to 25 per cent of total resources in the 1992-1993 biennium. We underscore ECA's role as an executing agency for programmes and projects in the area of regional cooperation and integration and urge that financial contributions of the United Nations should reflect the importance of the regional dimension in operational activities for development. We encourage ECA to intensify its efforts at mobilizing extrabudgetary resources both by cultivating new donors and by strengthening relations with current ones. At the same time, we urge member States and other countries to make or increase their contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD).

9. We recognize that there are strong linkages between the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) and the second United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II) programmes. We stress the need for coordination of the activities of the two programmes so as to accelerate socio-economic transformation and promote economic integration in Africa. We invite the ECA secretariat to prepare and submit proposals for harmonization of the activities of both programmes for review at subsequent meetings of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning and Conference of African Ministers of Industry respectively, before they are sent to our next meeting.

10. We consider the adoption of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF) by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session (General Assembly resolution 46/151) as an important step for addressing Africa's development, as it contains detailed and concrete commitments both by African countries and by their partners of the international community. We therefore urge all African member States and their development partners to live up to their respective commitments. We request the Executive Secretary to fully cooperate with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development as well as the United Nations system at large in the preparation of the evaluation reports provided for in paragraph 43 of the UN-NADAF, and to ensure prior submission of such reports to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

11. Conscious of the continuing deterioration of the economic and social situation of the African least developed countries (LDCs) including the land-locked countries whose economies are among the most vulnerable in the region, we invite the African LDCs to mobilize every resource available both internally and externally and to allocate them equitably to those economic sectors that would best make for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s. We appeal to the donor community to increase both its humanitarian and official development assistance (ODA) to the African LDCs in order to enable them to pursue the economic reforms and structural transformation indispensable to their economic and social development and to containing external shocks.

12. We are deeply concerned about the severe and unprecedented drought currently affecting the entire Eastern and Southern African subregion. We earnestly appeal to other African countries and the international community to provide the necessary assistance to the affected countries.

13. We welcome the holding of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. This "Earth Summit" '92 represents an important milestone in the international recognition given to environment as a common heritage of mankind. Environment is, thus, an issue around which a sense of interdependence and mutual interest has emerged between developed and developing nations. The African Common Position on the African Agenda

for Environment and Development is consistent with this trend. We believe that the Rio Earth Summit is an important occasion for all the countries of the world to affirm a new partnership for development. African countries will participate in the Rio Summit in that spirit.

14. We re-affirm the continuing validity of the regional commissions as important organs of the United Nations for promoting socio-economic development in various regions of the world. It is vital, therefore, that in the context of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, the Economic Commission for Africa should be strengthened to enable it to fulfil its mission.

Done at Addis Ababa,

headquarters of the United Nations

Economic Commission for Africa,

23 April 1992

Annex II

MESSAGE TO HIS EXCELLENCY DR. BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

We, the African Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning, meeting at the twenty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Africa/eighteenth meeting of the Conférence of Ministers from 20 to 23 April 1992, the first time we are gathering under the aegis of the Commission since your recent appointment as Secretary-General of the United Nations, take this opportunity to express to you our warmest congratulations on your election to this high office. Africa is proud to have one of its sons entrusted with the executive stewardship of the United Nations.

We have received with appreciation and interest the message you kindly addressed to us on the occasion of our present session.

We are gratified by your ardent commitment to the strengthening of democratic institutions, support to the democratization of all aspects of international relations, the promotion of longlasting peace and security and socio-economic development in all regions of the world. We take particular note of your desire to narrow the gap between the rich North and poor South through solutions to the debt problem and strategies for development within a sustainable environment.

We are, in particular, encouraged by your declared intention to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of the regional commissions to play their rightful role in this regard.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to thank you and reassure you of our continued support in the discharge of your noble mission in service of the international community.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
headquarters of the United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa
23 April 1992

Annex III

REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (13 TO 18 APRIL 1992) AS ADOPTED BY THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION/EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. Attendance and organization of work

The thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW), was held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 April to 18 April 1992. The meeting was formally opened by H.E. Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia. Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, also delivered a statement at the opening ceremony of the meeting. The representative of Togo expressed a vote of appreciation to the Government and people of Ethiopia for hosting the thirteenth meeting of TEPCOW.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Observers from the following Member States of the United Nations were present: China, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, India, Italy, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey and Venezuela. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Holy See were also represented by observers.

The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development (UN-DESD), United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS/HABITAT), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Council (WFC), World Food Programme (WFP), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented.

Observers from the following intergovernmental organizations were present: African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR), Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Banque de Développement des Etats des Grands Lacs (BDEGL), Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), International Parliament for Safety and Peace (IPSP), Kagera Basin Organization (KBO), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and West African Clearing House

(WACH).

Observers from the following non-governmental organizations were also present: CARITAS Internationalis, Commonwealth Secretariat and Lutheran World Federation.

The Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman: Nigeria

First Vice-Chairman:

Second Vice-Chairman: Algeria

Rapporteur: Lesotho

The Committee established an open-ended subcommittee chaired by the Second Vice-Chairman to consider a draft communique and related resolutions for adoption by the Committee. The subcommittee had the following countries as its core members: Chad, Egypt, Ghana, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

B. Agenda

On 13 April 1992, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

Conference theme: New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.

PART I. Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992

4.1 Economic Report on Africa 1992.

4.2 Biennial report of the Executive Secretary.

4.3 New directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s.

PART II. Transformation, recovery and adjustment

5. Implementation of regional development strategies: Update:

Progress report on the implementation of regional development strategies (the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes' for Socio-economic Recovery and Development and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation).

PART III. Issues, studies and reports on regional cooperation for development in Africa

6A. Global economic integration issues in the region:

Criteria for the identification of inter-subregional projects

6B. Sectoral issues on regional economic integration:

(i) Agriculture and environment:

The effectiveness of subregional and regional development projects in the agricultural and rural sector with special emphasis on environment and sustainable development;

(ii) Population issues in Africa:

Analysis of the current strategy for the population programme in Africa and the implications of recent developments, including funding policies, for its scope and prospects;

(iii) Information for development:

a. Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa;

b. The overall strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its sixteenth meeting in May 1990;

(iv) Transport and communications in Africa:

Progress report on the implementation of the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

(v) Industrial development in Africa:

Programme for the United Nations Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(vi) Natural resources and environment in Africa:

Report on the African Regional Preparatory Conference on Environment and Development;

(vii) Trade and development finance in Africa:

Report on Africa's preparation for and participation in UNCTAD VIII.

7. PART IV. Issues from subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers

PART V. Statutory issues

8. Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:

(a) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

(b) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa.

PART VI. Programme of work and priorities of the Commission

9. (a) Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work;

(b) Progress report on ECA Regional Advisory Services;

(c) Revision of the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997.

PART VII. Extrabudgetary resources and operational activities in ECA

10. A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for operational activities in ECA in the context of recent measures taken by major funding agencies of the United Nations, including the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Development Programme.

11. Any other business.

12. Date and venue of the fourteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

13. Adoption of the report.

14. Closure of the meeting.

C. Account of proceedings

Opening addresses

In his opening statement, H.E. Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia welcomed participants to the traditional stock-taking of Africa's economic and social development and stressed that the work of regional organizations and institutions would have to take account of the new environment in which their activities were unfolding. In that new environment, Africa had begun to design common positions and programmes such as the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation. Both documents reaffirmed the importance of peace and democracy to the socio-economic future of Africa and the importance of broad public participation if ambitious economic goals were to be achieved. He urged all member States to redouble their efforts to implement the African Charter in the light of their own evolving circumstances.

The Minister pointed out that the core strategy of the Lagos Plan of Action for the attainment of national and collective self-reliance remained important. In that regard, the acceleration of subregional economic cooperation and integration as well as the strengthening of the five Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) ought to be considered as the principal means of attaining the goals set. In his view, member States should rely, to the extent possible, on internal resources for the pursuit of Africa's development, recognizing where the national interest lay and imposing that insight on the totality of development effort. For that to happen, the LPA and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) should be reconciled with the structural adjustment programmes defined, in dialogue with individuals and institutions from outside Africa. He found the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa a useful contribution to the ongoing dialogue for the development of Africa. In the current circumstances, African policy makers should take the full measure of the human, financial and material resources that can and must be mobilized to ensure survival and growth. By using its own resources more fully and more efficiently than it had done in the past, Africa would increase the fruitfulness of the partnerships it had forged with others.

Turning to the situation of his own country, he commended the unprecedented tolerance and farsightedness of its peoples, the leaders of opposition groups and the international community at large for having dispelled the threat of war, and the devastation it had caused. Rehabilitation and recovery were now the order of the day and from its past and severe sacrifices, Ethiopia hoped to win its future economic progress. The transition from war to peace and from totalitarian dictatorship to democracy had brought Ethiopia invaluable opportunities it hoped to seize as well as formidable challenges to which it would rise. Pursuant to the Addis Ababa Conference on Peace and Democracy, held from 1 to 5 July 1991, Ethiopia had formulated an economic policy for the transitional period, and was planning to shift from a command economy to market-oriented economic development. It was already clear that Ethiopia's willingness to see economic agents largely guided by market signals was bringing increased outside assistance. For the progress to date, his appreciation went to all those who had helped make it possible. There remained, however, such difficulties as the problem of the demobilized soldiers of the defunct government, estimated at about 300,000, the large number of displaced persons, refugees and returnees, the need for a combined effort to provide relief to more than eight million persons on the verge of starvation and the rehabilitation of infrastructure throughout the country. The rehabilitation and redeployment work involved was beyond the present capability of the country. Aware of the threat that the transition from an overly centralized and undemocratic state to a decentralized and democratic policy could pose to social stability, Ethiopia hoped that sister countries and the international community, at large, would help it face the challenges.

In his statement, Mr. Issa B. Y. Diallo, Acting Executive Secretary of ECA welcomed participants to the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, and said that the statement of the Ethiopian Minister of Planning and Economic Development would serve as a useful point of reference for the Committee's deliberations. He then pointed out that the Conference theme of "New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa" underlined the need for ECA member States and the secretariat to develop a response to the changes taking place on the international scene and in Africa. The Conference must determine what Africa must do to take advantage of the historical changes transforming the globe and what ECA must do to strengthen its role as a major force in that process.

The Acting Executive Secretary drew the attention of the participants to the current ECA data which showed that the economic growth rate in the region had been only 2.3 per cent as compared to 3.2 per cent in 1990, and as compared to the region's annual population growth rate of 3 per cent. Education, health and employment had been the worst hit by the continued deterioration of social services. Agriculture had continued to depend more on rain than on irrigation and had therefore been heavily affected by drought and other natural disasters. Internal conflicts had continued in some subregions. The flight of capital had persisted. Infrastructural reforms suffered from a lack of adequate resources to operationalize them, and more importantly, from the lack of cooperation among African countries in such areas as transport, communications, finance and trade. External factors had also seriously constrained Africa's economic performance in 1991. Trade had suffered heavily from economic recession in the industrialized countries. The overall price of commodities and beverages had dropped by $US 2.8 billion from 1990. Another major impediment to regional growth originated from the external debt, estimated at $US 275.1 billion, which had accounted for 72.8 per cent of regional GDP. Further, the preoccupation of OECD countries with the emergency situation in Eastern Europe had combined with the conditionalities attached to financial aid to create a stagnation of the flow of external resources in 1991.

In spite of all that, he perceived signs of a potential for growth and sustainable development in the near future. The establishment of the African Economic Community was a step which would have to be fully supported by ECA, OAU, ADB and all subregional intergovernmental organizations. The transition to democracy in a number of countries was another significant development. As popular participation in political governance and socio-economic development gained ground in Africa, the management of economic and social infrastructure and broader participation in decision-making should improve.

The Acting Executive Secretary asserted that for ECA to remain a major force in Africa's socio-economic development, the organization would have to further strengthen its relationship with the Governments of member States. The exercise of joint responsibility for advocacy on African questions by ECA, OAU and ADB should be strengthened. ECA activities should be better harmonized with those of IGOs, the Bretton Woods institutions, professional associations, NGOs, the private sector and bilateral donors. Clear and concise tasks should be set for the MULPOCs, and realistic solutions found to the financial and management problems of the ECA-sponsored institutions.

Concerning the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 1991, Mr. Diallo pointed out that specific goals had been identified and had to be achieved within a specific time-frame. The New Agenda was complemented by a United Nations System-wide Plan of Action, which would monitor and coordinate all United Nations system activities in Africa. Mr. Diallo hoped that the Conference would confirm its support for ECA's major role under the New Agenda to the international community, and direct the secretariat as to the priority areas that the 1993 report on the New Agenda should stress.

Regarding the other global issues, he urged the Conference (a) to make a statement on the importance of establishing self-reliant subregional trade, and to provide specific objectives and a timetable for the development of a major initiative in this direction for the current biennium; (b) to direct the secretariat in developing a major strategy for finding development solutions to environmental problems; (c) to assure that both the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade and the Industrial Development Decade for Africa were being implemented in a coordinated manner, and to state if the tentative plan for coordination was moving in the right direction.

Similarly, he hoped that the Conference would consider the close connection between population factors, development, the environment and the agricultural economy, and direct the secretariat to produce a plan for integrating all four issues into a coherent strategy by the time of the next session in 1993. In the area of development information systems, the secretariat was seeking guidance on the manner in which its various databases could be integrated into a system networking from ECA. On a related issue, the meeting was also asked to consider how the Strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa could be effectively implemented.

Turning to the ongoing restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat, Mr. Diallo stated that the budget of the United Nations remained uncertain, and that the role of the Organization was being questioned along with that of the regional commissions in the socio-economic development and integration of the various world regions. The Conference needed to reaffirm that role, and in doing so, produce bold and imaginative suggestions for advancement in economic and social development through regional cooperation.

The Acting Executive Secretary concluded by observing that in a fast-changing world where competition was becoming particularly fierce and the resources available for development and international cooperation obviously dwindling, and in a region such as Africa, which was grappling with upheavals whose effects might well be long-lasting, ECA had to reflect the objective realities in its philosophy and action in both its work programme and operational activities, if it had to play its catalytic role in Africa's social and economic development. Since periods of crisis were the times when management capacity was most tested, Mr. Diallo asserted that everything should be done to maintain the credibility of the Commission. Given its human resources, ECA would have to strike a balance between research and operational activities, making sure to stress the quality rather than the quantity of its outputs, focusing on those activities that make a real impact on Africa's economic and social development and using its resources and operations to maximum advantage through close cooperation with like-minded institutions such as OAU, ADB and the subregional groupings.

The representative of Togo delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of all delegates. He thanked Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development and the Transitional Government and people of Ethiopia for their exemplary African hospitality. He particularly commended the efforts that had been made by the Transitional Government to rebuild and democratize the country, and also hoped that the statement of the Minister would be a useful source of reference during the imminent deliberations.

He also expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Issa B. Y. Diallo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of ECA for his lucid statement, for the high quality of the documents made available to the delegates and, more particularly, for the preparation of document E/ECA/CM.18/Summary which summarized all issues referred to the meeting. He then exhorted the secretariat to keep up the good work, and urged the delegates to prepare concrete recommendations to be transmitted to the ministers for their consideration and approval.

PART I: Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992 (agenda item 4)

Economic Report on Africa 1992 (agenda item 4.1)

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/2: Economic Report on Africa 1992.

Under this agenda item, the Committee reviewed Africa's economic performance in 1991, and the main underlying factors. Based on preliminary data, overall regional output had grown at a rate of about 2.3 per cent down from the 3.2 per cent growth rate for 1990. This was due to the severe recession affecting OECD countries, which depressed demand and prices of Africa's exports of oil and metallic minerals; the continued weakness of tropical agricultural beverage commodities; economic retrenchment accompanying programmes of structural adjustment and liberalization in many countries; continued structural weaknesses in the regional economy; social and political unrest accompanying the process of democratization; and civil war situations in some countries.

In 1991, North Africa appeared to have posted the strongest growth (3.4 per cent), followed by West Africa (3.2 per cent), Southern Africa (1.5 per cent), Eastern Africa (1.3 per cent), and Central Africa (-3.6 per cent). Agricultural output increased by 2.5 per cent in 1991, due to better-than-average rainfall conditions in all subregions except Eastern and Southern Africa. The Committee took note of continued weakness in the manufacturing sector, with the possibility that there would be a further reduction in the rate of capacity utilization due, in part, to the scarcity of hard currency to import essential inputs.

The Committee also took note of the deterioration in Africa's terms of trade and the lack of improvement in the region's share of world trade, which remained at a mere 2.2 per cent. Preliminary estimates indicated that the region's balance of payments deteriorated from $US 2.5 billion in 1990 to about $US 7.3 billion in 1991. Taking into account declines in private transfer payments, the account deficit for 1991 was estimated at about $US 8.9 billion. Africa's external debt contracted slightly, by 0.7 per cent, to $US 275.1 billion outstanding at the end of 1991. On the social front, the Committee acknowledged the continued breakdown in social services, the deterioration in all indicators of social well-being and the deepening of poverty throughout Africa in the wake of structural economic reforms.

Looking ahead to 1992, the Committee noted that prospects for modest regional economic recovery could depend on the strength of the recovery in OECD countries and the extent to which this stimulated demand for

African exports; stabilization of social and political conditions in the wake of the democratization process; economic liberalization and social transformation policies; and favourable weather conditions throughout the region.

The Committee called for the strengthening of the analytical aspects of the economic report, in order to give a fuller account not only of the causes underlying Africa's dismal socio-economic performance, but also concrete policy measures which should be undertaken to improve the situation. Analysis of the policies undertaken by member States would also lead to a useful exchange of countries' experiences. In order to address the intractable problem of lack of food self-sufficiency in Africa, the Committee recommended that member States accord top priority to the agricultural sector among all production sectors; offer more attractive incentives; improve agricultural competitiveness and productivity; and diversify their economies away from the traditional "cash" crops whose world markets had weakened due to persistent oversupply. On the question of civil strife, the Committee suggested that ECA should attempt to evaluate the opportunity costs of the subsequent destruction wreaked on national infrastructures.

Additional information on individual countries was provided to the Committee for incorporation, including more up-to-date production and export statistics, and the experiences of various countries on economic, structural and policy reforms which they had undertaken. The Committee also noted the suggestion that the joint publication of the Economic Report on Africa by ECA and ADB secretariats be revived, which would necessitate the submission of data on a regular basis by member States.

It was the Committee's opinion that the secretariat's forecast of 3.6 per cent growth in the regional economic performance in 1992 was rather optimistic. The underlying assumptions regarding the strength of the expected recovery among OECD countries, as well as the translation of this recovery into demand for Africa's traditional exports, was open to question. Similarly, the Committee felt that the impact of the severe drought affecting Eastern and Southern Africa had not been adequately taken into account.

It suggested that future reports should focus on policy directions that would achieve regional economic and social objectives, such as those set in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. Noting that some of the data was rendered in terms of national currencies, the Committee recommended that an attempt should be made in future to supply a table of nominal exchange rates of national currencies in terms of a common denominator.

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1990-1991 (agenda item 4.2)

Under this agenda item, the meeting considered document E/ECA/CM.18/3. The Committee noted that during the period under review (1990-1991) several policy organs had met and adopted legislative decisions aimed at enhancing the performance of the secretariat. Among the major results of the said decisions were the General Assembly's approval of additional funds in support of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP); the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs); the launching of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and the second United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000). The Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Teams (MRAG), a group of senior advisors, was established to assist member States to attain the objectives of economic cooperation and integration through a multidisciplinary approach to self-reliant development and structural transformation.

The Committee further noted that several efforts intended to revitalize the operational framework of the Commission had been pursued. The vacancy rate of the secretariat was reduced from 25.7 per cent in 1988-1989 to below 8.5 per cent in 1990-1991. Pursuant to the General Assembly resolution to increase the representation of professional women in the secretariat, the total number of professional women at ECA as of December 1991 was 36 or 17 per cent of ECA staff. Every effort was being made to further increase the proportion of female staff at the secretariat, including their appointment at higher levels. Similarly, the Committee noted that 1991 had marked the beginning of full-scale office automation in ECA, and that that had entailed a massive training programme for staff. In view of the limited regular budget and declining extrabudgetary resources, the secretariat intended to step up its efforts in the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources in the coming biennium.

With regard to the performance of the secretariat, the Committee noted that the programme performance, at the output level for the biennium 1990-1991, was 91 per cent as compared to 88 per cent in the 1988-1989 biennium.

The Committee took note of the report and observed that cooperation between ECA and subregional intergovernmental institutions should be enhanced especially at the operational level, in order to benefit from each other's experiences. In this regard, cooperation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) was encouraged and it was agreed that ECA would incorporate the data already collected by CILSS in its report. The Committee also drew attention to a number of outstanding issues related to the ongoing improvement of the secretariat, which were not covered in the report. It understood, however, that such issues would be raised under the agenda item relating to the new directions for the Economic Commission for Africa. The Committee also expressed the view that the editorial aspects of the report should be improved.

New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s (agenda item 4.3)

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges".

The Committee took note that the document was largely based on the report of a Task Force established by the Acting Executive Secretary in November 1991 and insights of ECA staff, as well as consultations with ECA's main collaborating partners. The Committee commended the Acting Executive Secretary for his initiatives and efforts at charting new directions for the Commission for the 1990s. It noted that the changes that have taken place in Africa and the rest of the world in the past few years and the accompanying challenges justified adjustments in ECA's policy orientation, programmes and management capacity with a view to ensuring greater impact of its activities. Such a reorientation was consistent with the reforms already underway in the rest of the United Nations system.

The Committee also requested the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is solidly based on the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA, namely strengthening ECA's advisory role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting private initiatives and entrepreneurship; developing, disseminating and utilizing science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; achieving structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promoting women in development.

The Committee considered the areas of focus and recognized that they were established to galvanize programme delivery in the existing sectoral and overall priorities already established by the Commission. In doing so, it recognized that the areas were neither a substitute for existing subprogrammes nor new priorities. They represented basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA with respect to African development.

The Committee observed that the document provided useful suggestions with regard to ECA's assistance to member States in order to foster their economic development and transformation in the 1990s. It observed that ECA's past achievements had been considerable but that ECA had not paid sufficient attention to promoting itself and its products. In this regard, the Committee recommended that improving ECA's image and publicizing its products should be one of the key elements of ECA's approach in the 1990s. ECA should strike a desirable balance between research and analysis and operational activities. To that end, the Commission was urged to seek extrabudgetary resources to support additional operational activities.

The Committee underscored the need for ECA to foster closer cooperation with other

African regional organizations, United Nations agencies, the private sector, NGOs and universities. It noted that some of ECA's main achievements resulted from inter-agency collaboration. In this regard, particular stress was placed on the need for ECA to intensify collaboration with OAU and ADB and to harmonize their programmes and activities, to the extent possible, with a view to ensuring that the full potentials of African institutions and organizations were mobilized for the promotion of Africa's development. The Committee supported ECA's approach of fostering closer links with member States and suggested that this should involve using the existing arrangements more innovatively. The Committee also endorsed closer operational cooperation between ECA and the Bretton Woods institutions.

The Committee observed that member States had expected much from the MULPOCs when they were established. The concept remained sound and valid, insofar as their activities brought ECA closer to the member States and various subregional groupings. There was a need, however, to revitalize them in order that they can be of better service to the subregional economic groupings.

The Committee also expressed the view that the ECA-sponsored institutions should be streamlined and rationalized. It observed that many of them faced problems of funding. It therefore proposed that ECA should undertake-an in-depth study with a view to rationalizing these institutions. The Committee further urged the Commission to harmonize the activities of its sponsored institutions with those of other subregional economic institutions.

The Committee also underlined the need to further rationalize ECA conferences and meetings as to their number, the substance of their agenda and the length and number of documents. There was also need to harmonize ECA and OAU meetings to avoid duplication and overlap.

The Committee recognized the need for reforms in the structure of the secretariat to achieve full consistence with the new orientation proposed in the policy document and recommended that the Commission should monitor and review its performance annually.

Finally, the Committee took note of the document and decided that the various proposals for strengthening ECA, in the light of the discussions on the policy paper, should be embodied in a resolution for consideration by the Committee and subsequent adoption by the Conference of Ministers.

The Committee adopted draft resolutions 1 (XIII) and 2 (XIII).

PART II: Transformation, recovery and adjustment

Implementation of regional development strategies: Update

Progress report on implementation of regional development strategies (the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Development and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation) (agenda item 5)

Under this agenda item, the Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/5.

The Committee took note of the activities undertaken during the period 1990-1991 as follow-up to regional development strategies. Senior officials of the OAU, ECA and ADB secretariats had met twice to discuss ways of revitalizing the Lagos Plan of Action, while deliberations on the Final Act of Lagos at Abuja, Nigeria in June 1991 had led to the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. As regards the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD), the General Assembly, on 18 December 1991, adopt a resolution on the Final Review and Appraisal of UN-PAAERD which contained its follow-up programme, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The Committee further noted that the secretariat had published the "Selected policy instruments" on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes (AAF-SAP) and a popular version of AAF-SAP both of which had been widely distributed. In the same vein, various meetings had been organized for groups representing various African interests and the international community to discuss the issue of structural adjustment. Member States were encouraged to make use of AAF-SAP when formulating their policy framework papers prior to negotiations with Bretton Woods institutions. The Committee also noted that the operationalization of popular participation had been given a fresh boost during 1990-1991 by the process of democratization that had become widespread across the continent. Other activities undertaken by ECA, the NGOs, the media, communication organs, organized labour and women and youth groups were conducted with a view to ensuring greater popular participation in development.

While recognizing that African countries were primarily responsible for implementing the development strategies, the Committee noted that ECA had yet to provide the countries with adequate assistance in the formulation of their macroeconomic development policies. The decentralization of ECA activities to revitalized MULPOCs could, to a certain extent, redress that situation.

With regard to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the Committee agreed that concrete measures should be adopted by Africa and the international community for the attainment of its objectives.

The Committee agreed on the central role that popular participation had to play in development and urged member States to step up their efforts towards the implementation of the Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation.

It was recommended that comprehensive studies on the reorientation of the consumption patterns of African countries should be undertaken by the secretariat in an attempt to align them with their production processes. The secretariat was requested to increasingly involve member States in the design and development of strategies and to undertake specific actions for the sustained implementation of the existing strategies.

The secretariat was urged to intensify and improve its assistance to member countries in order to better integrate the provisions of AAF-SAP in the planning of long-term strategies.

The Committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 3 (XIII).

PART III: Issues, studies and reports on regional cooperation for development in Africa

Global economic integration issues in the region:

Criteria for identifying inter-subregional projects [agenda item 6(a)]

Under this agenda item, the Committee reviewed document E/ECA/CM/18/6 entitled "Criteria for selection of inter-subregional projects".

The Committee reviewed the criteria approved for identifying subregional projects as well as those used for two regional programmes, namely the first United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988 (UNTACDA I) and the first Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1980-1990 (IDDA I). The Committee then reviewed the criteria used by certain subregional economic groupings and considered the proposed criteria for selecting inter-subregional projects within the context of the African Economic Community.

The Committee recommended that the document should be sent to the various existing subregional structures for possible discussion and use as an orientation document. It requested ECA to disseminate progress reports of subregional integration programmes in order that they might be better understood and to facilitate follow-up activities at national and subregional levels. It was recommended that studies and economic integration programmes should draw from the current relevant experience in the world. ECA should send a mission to all existing subregional economic integration organizations in Africa in order to have better knowledge of their programmes. Discussions should also be held among subregional organizations for mutual improvement of their programmes.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the "PTA Trade and Development Strategy" adopted by the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) in the 1990s for the establishment of a common market by the year 2000.

Member States were urged to fulfil the commitments that they had made at the levels of subregional and regional organizations.

Agriculture and environment

The effectiveness of regional and subregional development projects in the agricultural and rural sector, with particular emphasis on environment and sustainable development [agenda item 6B (i)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/7 on the "Effectiveness of regional and subregional development projects in the agricultural and rural sector, with particular emphasis on environment and sustained development".

It noted the major shortcomings identified and analyzed during the design and implementation of national, subregional and regional projects in the agricultural and rural sector. In particular, it observed that many projects were developed with minimal consultation with the intended beneficiaries and without giving adequate consideration to the problems of recurrent costs or the question of external factors, notably environmental degradation. Furthermore, the designers of projects often overlooked the concerns and the problems of small farmers, had a bias for cash crops and used benchmark prices in the computation of the internal rate of return (IRR) of projects, which did not reflect the true social costs of the country concerned. In addition, dumping and other market distortions rendered the results of the assessment of vital development projects bias.

The Committee noted that because of the poor performance of agricultural and rural development projects, Africa had failed to achieve a reasonable level of food security based on collective self-reliance. Projections showed that to ensure access to the food that the population of the year 2010 will need, African Governments would have to spend more than double the projected agricultural export proceeds on food imports.

The Committee observed that the responsibility for failure to attain food self-sufficiency was shared between the national and international experts who designed and carried out numerous projects without proper consultation with the intended beneficiaries. There had been little effective participation of the rural communities, notably women.

The Committee endorsed the idea of developing agricultural and rural projects within a programme framework, based on increased measures of individual and collective self-reliance. This would ensure sustainable growth and development leading to structural transformation of the rural sector. It emphasized the need to preserve the environment and to use the domestic resource cost (DRC) in developing the budgets for projects.

In developing projects related to increasing productivity in the food and agricultural sector, the Committee cautioned against the use of alien technologies which often were not adapted to the socio-economic and natural environment of the African country concerned. This often resulted in the degradation of the environment and the resource base without contributing effectively to increased productivity or sustaining production. The development of technologies should be based, as much as possible, on the existing ones, and attempts should be made to use local materials and expertise.

The Committee emphasized the need for ECA to assist member States individually and collectively, to create an enabling environment for the structural transformation of the food and agricultural sector within the framework of subregional and regional economic groupings; it also urged sectoral intergovernmental organizations to ensure food security at both household and national levels.

The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the recommendations contained in it.

Population issues in Africa

Analysis of the current strategy for the population programme in Africa and the implications of recent developments, including funding policies for its scope and prospects [agenda item 6B (ii)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/8 entitled "Population issues in Africa: Recent developments and their implications for the African Regional Population Programme".

The Committee examined the major population issues in the region that had led to the deterioration of living conditions and the physical environment. They included rapid population growth rates, mobility of population groups as a result of man-made and natural calamities, insufficient goods and services that were also inequitably distributed, and the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

The Committee noted that it was important for countries to balance their economic and population growth rates. In this respect, it encouraged the countries that had not yet formulated population and development policies aimed at attaining the above objective to do so and to integrate them in their short-, medium- and long-term development plans. In addition, the Committee urged African countries to intensify population education programmes in the region from the primary level to the post-formal education stages, and to involve both the male and female segments of the population in family planning programmes and policies.

The Committee appealed to all funding agencies engaged in population activities, particularly UNFPA, to provide increased resources to ECA, national institutions and other relevant organizations in the African region. It also emphasized that the research findings of these institutions should be disseminated as widely as possible, and utilized in development planning.

The Committee welcomed the invitation of the Government of Senegal to host the third African Population Conference in Dakar, in November 1992. It strongly recommended that African countries should endeavour to participate in the Dakar Conference, and later in the fourth United Nations International Population Conference to be held in 1994 in order to ensure that African Governments and institutions benefitted from them.

The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the recommendations contained therein.

Information for development

Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa [agenda item 6B (iii)a.]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/9 entitled "Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa".

The Committee noted that data and information were central to socio-economic development planning particularly as regards the identification of options and elaboration of strategies. This need became greater as the scale of planning enlarged and as the region moved toward the implementation of the African Economic Community. It was observed that timely information was critically needed both from within and outside Africa.

The Committee further noted that the information infrastructure in Africa was largely unprepared for the challenges posed by information needs of development planning in the 1990s. Planners had outlined their information needs and had underscored their dissatisfaction with existing information infrastructure in their countries.

Some problems relating to the present information infrastructure in Africa which were noted by the Committee included: inadequate organization of existing data/information; insufficient use of existing facilities and resources; insensitivity of information structures to the needs of development planners; and lack of appreciation by decision makers, in many countries, of the role of information.

The Committee observed that while information technology, particularly in the form of computers, was well disseminated in Africa at the government level, within parastatal organizations and the private sector, their potential for information access and exchange had yet to be exploited. The impact of computers and telecommunication facilities on the quality of socio-economic information in the region had been negligible.

The Committee agreed that the "appropriate technology" issue was a false one in information technology which prevented Africa from being competitive. Africa could bypass technology generations and acquire the most up-to-date tools, particularly because, in contrast to other technologies, the price of information technology had continued to fall drastically.

In order to get information technology to serve Africa's development planning needs, the Committee agreed that the following policies should be adopted:

(a) A common approach at national, subregional and regional levels to hardware acquisition and use which would promote compatibility, facilitate information exchange and the sharing of scarce resources, including expertise. This would facilitate the development of information networks and save foreign currency;

(b) Human resources development to facilitate self-reliance in the use of information technology and to correct the shortfall in technological skills; and

(c) Telecommunications development to promote information access and exchange.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the work of PADIS in sensitizing African member States to the use of information technology for development. It urged African member States and the international community to lend support to PADIS in its endeavour to assist African member States in the development and strengthening of information infrastructures.

The Committee further noted with satisfaction the creation of a Working Group on ECA's Information Systems which was intended to help the secretariat integrate its activities in this area. That was the first step towards the development of an information network that would provide an effective information base for the African Economic Community. The Committee expressed the hope that the necessary resources would be available for that purpose.

The Committee took note of the document.

The overall strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its sixteenth meeting in May 1990 [agenda item 6B (iii)b.]

The Committee reviewed document E/ECA/CM.18/10, "Proposals for accelerated implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s".

Under this agenda item, the Committee noted the historical background to the Addis Ababa Plan of Action, and the draft strategy for its implementation which was considered and adopted by a working group in Nairobi in July 1991.

The Committee further noted that the level and quality of African statistics had deteriorated during the 1970s and 1980s due to economic crises that led to public spending cuts, weak interest in quantitative information in the process of economic planning, competition between external and internal demands for statistical data, inadequate infrastructure for data and information gathering, analysis and dissemination and poor management of statistical services.

The Committee considered selected measures for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action. It was noted that there was no ready framework applicable to all countries.

The measures considered were:

(a) The establishment of National Needs Assessment or Programme Review and Strategy Development (NA/PRSD) Teams to evaluate past experience and identify needs and priorities and to devise an appropriate five- to ten-year statistical development plan on the basis of the evaluation results;

(b) Celebration of the eighteenth day of November as African Statistics Day by all member States, with activities designed to promote awareness on the importance of statistics; and

(c) Coordination of activities of producers and users of statistics, at the national and regional levels, on one hand, and among other agencies including bilateral and multilateral donors, on the other.

The Committee also recommended that national boards of statistics should be set up as autonomous bodies. Such boards should provide statistical guidelines and propose means of defraying some of the operating costs of national statistical services by marketing their products and services.

To increase the usefulness of African statistics in socio-economic planning, and in addressing grass-roots concerns, the Committee recommended that statistical activities should be extended beyond national accounts and macroeconomic statistics, to the level of districts and communities. Besides generating socio-economic data, the Committee expressed the need for coverage of the informal sector.

The Committee recommended that a study should be carried out on reducing the high turn-over of trained statisticians from national bureaus of statistics. It was also necessary to build statistics capability in Africa at the national level and to place more emphasis on the training of statisticians. At the regional level, the Committee recommended that ECA's Statistics Division should be strengthened in order for ECA to become the primary source of socio-economic statistics on Africa.

The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the actions recommended in paragraph 64 of the document.

Transport and communications in Africa

Progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) [agenda item 6 B(iv)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/11 entitled "Progress report on the implementa-tion of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II)".

The Committee took note of the activities that had been undertaken from May 1991 to April 1992. These activities fell under three categories: (a) the preparation and adoption of the programme; (b) the launching of UNTACDA II; and (c) coordination and mobilization of resources for the implementation of UNTACDA II.

The Committee noted that the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa had been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1988. It was formally launched in November 1991 during the Symposium jointly organized by the Belgian Académie royale des sciences d'outre-mer, ECA, ACP and the United Nations Information and Liaison Centre in Brussels. The last day of the Symposium had been devoted to the promotion of UNTACDA II through the organization of a round table with donors and members of the Resource Mobilization Committee. One hundred and fifty experts from more than 50 countries, 20 representatives of donor institutions and countries participated in this round table. The Committee also noted that the donors had agreed to mobilize their efforts to develop transport and communications in Africa within the framework of UNTACDA II. It particularly welcomed the memorandum signed by the World Bank and ECA inviting donors participating in the sub-Saharan Africa's Special Transport Programme (SSATP) to embark upon activities compatible with those defined in the UNTACDA II memorandum. That document recognized ECA's leadership and coordinating role in the implementation of the programme of the Decade.

The Committee suggested that the implementation of the programme should be carried out in a way that assured proper linkages with other economic sectors. In this regard, it called for more coordination between UNTACDA II and IDDA II. Moreover, it requested that a review of guidelines for project identification be finalized and made available to member States, especially those related to railway projects. It was felt that more emphasis should be placed on research in the areas of maintenance of transport equipment, transport modes and applied research for alleviating the burden on women, who carried most of the goods from rural to urban areas. It further requested the secretariat to devise ways and means, including direct investments, for the rapid implementation of the Decade, and to report to the next session.

On the harmonization of the implementation of UNTACDA II and IDDA II, the Committee urged ECA to prepare a plan of action for the harmonization of the activities of the two Decades and to present it for consideration by the next meeting of the Conference of

African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning. The conclusions of that Conference will be reviewed by the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

The Committee recommended that a special fund should be established at the national level by the transport sector for the maintenance of transport infrastructure. It also urged member States to establish their respective National Coordinating Committees (NCC) in order to assist in the effective implementation of UNTACDA II. In that connection, the Committee expressed its appreciation to the United Nations General Assembly for allocating resources to the programme, and hoped that additional resources would be forthcoming during future stages of implementation.

The Committee adopted draft decision Dec. 1 (XIII).

Industrial development in Africa:

Programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa [agenda item 6B(v)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/12. It reviewed actions taken at the level of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations General Assembly on Commission resolution 709 (XXVI) concerning the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II) (1991-2000), which was adopted by the seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. It also took note of the relevant resolutions and decisions taken at the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the fourth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the 1992 second regular session of ECOSOC.

The Committee underlined the importance of mobilizing domestic resources for the implementation of IDDA II. Some of the measures that the Committee felt would ensure the success of IDDA II were the integration of IDDA programmes at national and subregional levels, the encouragement and full involvement of the private sector in the implementation of industrialization in the region, the mobilization of human, scientific and financial investment resources from domestic and foreign sources for project implementation in the region, the effective support and use of national and subregional institutions for research and development linked to production and the formulation of policies for strengthening African scientific and technological capability in industry.

The Committee further underlined the need for ECA to harmonize its IDDA-related activities with other relevant organizations, including various African subregional organizations, the African Development Bank, the Organization of African Unity, UNIDO, the World Bank and United Nations specialized agencies involved in industrial development.

The Committee also stressed the need for coordination between the programme of the second IDDA and that of the second UNTACDA for an effective industrial and economic integration. The Committee then requested the secretariat to prepare a plan of action for the harmonization of activities of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and to present it for consideration by the next meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. The nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers would then review the conclusions of that Conference.

In the light of the above observations, the Committee appealed through member States to the UNDP Governing Council to allocate adequate resources for the second IDDA during UNDP's Fifth Programming Cycle for Africa (1992-1996). It also recommended the adoption of the programme of the second IDDA and its submission to the General Assembly through ECOSOC for endorsement. The Committee further requested that an appeal be made to the General Assembly to provide ECA with additional resources required for the implementation of the second IDDA.

The Committee adopted draft decision Dec.2 (XIII).

Natural resources and environment in Africa

Report of the African Regional Preparatory Conference on Environment and

Development [agenda item 6B (vi)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/13 entitled "Africa's preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

The Committee noted that the African Programme for Environment and Development included the following items: food self-sufficiency and security; efficient and equitable use of water resources; management of marine and coastal resources; increasing energy self-sufficiency; effective control of demographic changes and pressure; development of human settlement planning and management; optimizing industrial production and pollution control; management of biological and bio-technological diversity; mitigation of global warming and climatic change; protection and regeneration of the tropical forest; reversal of desertification in Africa; human resources development; popular participation; development of environmental legislation; creating awareness of the environment; management of solid and toxic wastes; environmental revival; elimination of poverty; drought monitoring; development of science and technology; health; the fight against the effects of natural disasters; environmental measures in land-locked countries; and minimization of the effects of refugees on the environment and on development. The Committee then considered the African Common Position on the African Programme for Environment and Development. It also reviewed the role of African regional institutions and United Nations agencies in the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The Committee expressed gratitude to the joint secretariat for the activities undertaken within the context of Africa's preparations for UNCED. The Committee sought clarification about the strategies adopted to mobilize resources for implementing the African Programme for Environment and Development, and on Africa's position regarding the management of marine and coastal resources, an issue which was of major concern to countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

The Committee suggested that member States should establish institutional and regulatory measures on environmental protection for better management of the sector. It also requested intergovernmental organizations to include issues on environmental protection in their programmes. Noting that the environment was an issue which concerned both the developed and developing countries, the Committee emphasized that multilateral cooperation was necessary in order to safeguard the planet. The Committee urged ECA to provide assistance to member States in that regard and to consider natural resources issues separately from environmental issues, particularly where they constituted important assets to the nation.

Finally, an appeal was made to the member States to participate, actively, at the highest possible level, in the Rio de Janeiro Conference in June 1992, considering that the Rio Conference was a World Summit that would adopt the earth charter on environment. Moreover, the Conference will review other important issues on environment and development. There are issues which are highly important to Africa, and have not yet been finalized. These are: financial resources, the international economic environment, conventions on climatic change and biodiversity. Negotiations on those items would be finalized in Rio de Janeiro. African experts/delegations would meet on 1 and 2 June 1992 in order to harmonize their position on the issues pending. The Conference itself will be held from 3 to 14 June 1992.

Trade and development in Africa

Report on Africa's preparations for and participation in the eighth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VIII) [agenda item 6B (vii)]

The Committee considered the "Report on Africa's preparation for and participation in the eighth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development" (UNCTAD VIII), documents E/ECA/CM.18/14 and E/ECA/CM.18/14/Add.1.

The Committee took note of the various activities undertaken by Africa in the context of UNCTAD VIII. In accordance with one of the recommendations of the eleventh Conference of African Ministers of Trade, a meeting had been held in Lusaka, Zambia, to adopt a common position for UNCTAD VIII negotiations. That position was presented under the name of the "Lusaka Declaration". Subsequently, the seventh Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 (G.77) was held in Teheran, Iran to adopt a single text on the position of the G.77. During that meeting, it was apparent that the traditional solidarity of the G.77 had eroded. Africa was, therefore, obliged to carry out its multilateral negotiations alone.

The Committee felt that the non-reflection of Africa's interests in the UNCTAD negotiations was, inter alia, due to its poor participation, as the size of Africa's diplomatic representation in Geneva clearly testified. The Committee noted that the negotiation frameworks offered by UNCTAD and the GATT were important for Africa, and that the continent should strive to improve its position in the negotiations. ECA, OAU and ADB were important fora for defining Africa's interests on the international scene, and should therefore be fully utilized.

In order to offset the loss of the G.77 solidarity, the Committee recommended that Africa should strengthen cooperation among its regional institutions, namely OAU, ADB and ECA, and increase its representations at Geneva. Africa should also take advantage of the cooperation framework offered by the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and the "Strategies for Revitalization, Recovery and Growth of African Trade in the 1990s and Beyond", as adopted by the extraordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade in December 1990.

The Committee took note of the report on Africa's preparations for and participation in UNCTAD VIII.

PART IV: Issues from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 7)

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/15 and its two addenda on issues from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers. Part I of the document contained issues brought to the attention of the Commission, but not requiring any action on its part. Part II contained issues calling for action by the Commission.

The Committee noted a change in the presentation of the resolutions of subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies as their reports were not presented along with the resolutions. It reviewed the resolutions and provided guidance to the Committee on resolutions before considering their endorsement and subsequently recommending them to the Conference of Ministers in its eighteenth session, for adoption.

The Committee considered a proposal to institute a Conference of African Ministers of Science and Technology for Development. It cautioned against increases in the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies. It drew attention to current attempts to rationalize and streamline meetings and conferences. It accordingly requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted to the next session of the Commission on the possibilities for establishing such a Conference.

The Committee regretted that some of the ECA-sponsored working institutions were unable to fully carry out their activities for lack of financial support from member States. It recommended that the budget of ACMAD should be approved and the required resources should be mobilized urgently.

On the composition of the Board of Governors of IDEP, the Committee recommended that existing vacancies in the following subregions should be filled:

North Africa:	Tunisia
	Sudan
Central Africa:	Cameroon
	Burundi
West Africa:	Guinea
	Nigeria
	Togo
Eastern and Southern Africa:	Namibia

The Committee took note of the document and adopted the following resolutions and decisions: 4 (XIII), 5 (XIII), 6 (XIII), 7 (XIII), 8 (XIII), 9 (XIII), 10 (XIII), 11 (XIII), 12 (XIII), 13 (XIII), 14 (XIII), 15 (XIII) and 16 (XIII). The Committee also recommended the endorsement of the following decisions: Dec. 3 (XIII), Dec. 4 (XIII), Dec. 5 (XIII) and Dec. 6 (XIII).

PART V: Statutory issues

Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that are of interest to Africa (agenda item 8)

- Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers [agenda item 8(a)]
- Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa [agenda item 8(b)]

The Committee considered and noted documents E/ECA/CM.18/16 and E/ECA/CM.18/17, complemented by General Assembly resolution 46/151 and its annexes.

PART VI: Programme of work and priorities of the Commission

Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work [agenda item 9(a)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/18 "Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work".

Under this agenda item, the Committee considered the editorial variations that had arisen between documents E/ECA/CM.17/25/Rev.1 (the proposed work programme approved by the twelfth session of TEPCOW) and A/46/6/Rev.1 Supplement No. 6 (which was endorsed by the General Assembly). The Committee sought and received assurance from the secretariat that the listed activities for collaboration, harmonization and liaison with intergovernmental organizations in the ECA region and additional activities under IDDA II and UNTACDA II could be accommodated within the existing budgetary limits and, thus, had no additional financial implications. The Committee then noted that activities under IDDA II and UNTACDA II particularly had been provided for under a separate General Assembly resolution 46/458.

The Committee recommended that the proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work listed in document E/ECA/CM.18/18, should be adopted as amended.

Progress report on ECA Regional Advisory Services [agenda item 9(b)]

Under this agenda item, the Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/19 entitled "Progress report on the new orientation of ECA advisory services during the 1990s".

The Committee noted with satisfaction the formation of the Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG), and agreed that the Group would be useful in assisting member States to find lasting solutions to their economic development problems. The Committee further noted the activities that had been carried out by the Group, and endorsed its proposed work programme for 1992.

The Committee, however, emphasized that in order for the ECA-MRAG to be effective, adequate resources, both human and financial, should be put at the disposal of the Group, and cautioned that experts of the Group should demonstrate commitment to the regional and subregional programmes. The Committee further emphasized that the activities of the ECA-MRAG should continue to be harmonized with those of the MULPOCs.

Taking cognizance of the limited resources at the disposal of the Group, the Committee felt that industry and transport and communications sectors were important in most African countries and that advisory services in those sectors should be accorded the priority they deserved by the Group. It noted that the Group was updating brochures on its activities and urged that they be distributed widely to all African member States.

Revision of the Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997

First revision of the Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997 [agenda item 9(c)]

The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/20 "First revision of the Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997".

Under this agenda item, the Committee discussed proposed revisions in the 1992-1997 Medium-term Plan (MTP) arising from: (a) recommendations of the Task Force on the review and appraisal of the policy orientation, programme and management capacity of ECA with regard to regrouping the Commission's activities; (b) the efforts pending from 1990 to disaggregate the "Development issues" subprogramme and to link the issues and problems of human resources planning, development and utilization with those of social development and poverty alleviation; (c) the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s; and (d) instructions from United Nations Headquarters advising the revision of the MTP to reflect the implementation of: (i) United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 712 (XXVI) on Africa's participation in UNCED; and (ii) UNCTAD VIII, which took place in February 1992.

Noting that there were provisions for a second revision of the MTP in 1994, the Committee agreed that there was ample time to consider and introduce additional amendments. It also felt that human resources and social development in Africa were each sufficiently important on its own and should not have been merged. To that end, the Committee expressed a reservation about the recommended deletion of paragraphs 30.19, 30.20 and 30.22 which it felt would dilute commitment to human resources. It also felt that paragraphs 30.62 and 30.63 should not be deleted. In the same vein, it was proposed that advancement of women (subprogramme 8) should be included among those accorded high priority in paragraph 30.15.

The Committee recommended that paragraphs 30.49 and 30.50 of subprogramme 5 concerning LDCs should be updated in the light of the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action for the LDCs in the 1990s adopted at the Conference on LDCs in September 1990, and that the resolutions of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs held on 17 April 1992, in Addis Ababa, should be taken into account. On the forthcoming Earth Summit (UNCED), the Committee noted that provisions were being made within the MTP (paragraphs 30.72, 30.74, and 30.75) to maintain the utmost flexibility with regard to follow-up activities, in view of the Committee's present inability to predict the outcome of the Conference.

The Committee endorsed the changes, subject to the above comments.

PART VII: Extrabudgetary resources and operational activities in ECA

A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for operational activities in ECA in the context of recent measures taken by major funding agencies of the United Nations Development Programme (agenda item 10)

Under this agenda item, the Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/21 entitled "A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for the operational activities in ECA" and a progress report on the utilization of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) (E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.3).

The Committee noted that while extrabudgetary resources accounted for approximately 40 per cent of total ECA financial resources in 1985-1991, they were projected to decline to 25 per cent of the total resources in the 1992-1993 biennium. This alarming decline was attributed to the fact that the United Nations agencies funding operational activities were placing emphasis on national execution of projects and allocating less resources to intercountry programmes such as those implemented by ECA.

The Committee deplored the fact that, at a time when regional cooperation and integration in Africa were being given high priority, as exemplified by the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, ECA should face such a steep decline in its extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of regional projects.

The Committee underscored ECA's role as an executing agency for programmes and projects in the area of regional economic cooperation and integration and in the operational activities for development. Furthermore, the Committee requested United Nations agencies to finance technical cooperation by providing the ECA secretariat with the funds needed to implement projects entrusted to the Commission.

The Committee also noted that the alarming decline in the level of extrabudgetary resources could also be partially attributed to the sharp reduction of bilateral assistance and contributions by member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD). Noting that bilateral assistance was being diverted to other regions of the world, the Committee urged the ECA secretariat to ensure that it remained competitive in order to position itself as a credible institution. Its operational programme for technical assistance and cooperation should mobilize and attract a significant amount of external resources. The secretariat needed to improve on its image and market its products more efficiently. Member States were invited to increase ECA's extrabudgetary resources by contributing significantly to UNTFAD in the true spirit of self-reliance. Member States were also invited to allocate, where possible, a certain percentage of their respective UNDP national IPFs for the execution of the fifth intercountry programme for regional projects which had linkages with national projects.

The Committee also urged African countries who were members of the UNDP Governing Council to ensure that the concern expressed by the Commission with regard to the reduced resources allocated to intercountry activities was given due attention during the Council's deliberations. It reiterated its appeal for closer financial cooperation between both the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab and European States (RBAES) and the Regional Bureau for Africa for the financing of multinational programmes for Africa.

The Committee requested the ECA secretariat to alleviate the financial crisis it was facing, through: the promotion of income-generating activities; use of restrictive budgetary measures; and resource mobilization operations targeted at multilateral and bilateral donors such as the European Economic Community in the context of Lomé IV. The Committee also encouraged the secretariat to design and formulate projects and programmes meeting the criteria applied by United Nations funding agencies for allocating resources to the regional commissions so that it could secure even more resources from those agencies.

Any other business (agenda item 11)

The Committee observed that ECA should also consider the role of youth in development.

The Committee also expressed concern at the fact that working documents often arrived late. ECA was requested to send such documents in good time to member States so that the Ministries concerned could study them properly.

Date and venue of the fourteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 12)

The Committee took note of the fact that in accordance with the practice of rotating the venue of the Conference of Ministers between ECA headquarters and member States in alternative years, the next meeting of the Conference should be held away from headquarters. Since no invitation had been received for a member State to host the next meeting of the Conference, it left consideration of the issue to the Conference of Ministers.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 13)

On 18 April 1992, the Committee adopted the present report together with draft resolutions and decisions contained in annexes I and II respectively for consideration by the Conference of Ministers.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 14)

The Acting Executive Secretary noted that that was his first time to participate in the Committee meeting as executive head of the Commission. He was particularly impressed by the commitment of members of the Committee to African socio-economic development as evidenced by the seriousness and the high quality of debates. He was grateful for the support that the Committee gave to the new orientation for ECA in the 1990s. He pledged that he would do his utmost to implement the recommendations of the Committee. He expressed gratitude to all those who contributed to making the meeting a success, particularly the members of the Bureau.

The Chairman thanked the delegates, members of the secretariat and all the technical support services for their cooperation and support which had facilitated the effective steering of the meeting. He then declared the meeting closed.

Annex IV

MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW (14 May 1991 - 23 April 1992)

Body and officers	Meeting or session	Document symbol
Conference of African Ministers of Industry Chairman: Senegal Rapporteur: Algeria	Tenth meeting 29-31 July 1991 Dakar, Senegal	CAMI.10/14/Rev.1
Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development Chairman: Cameroon First Rapporteur: Rwanda Second Rapporteur: Lesotho	Seventh meeting 4-8 November 1991 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/NRD/S&T/IGCESTD/7/12
Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization Chairman: Swaziland Rapporteur: Sudan	Sixth meeting 21 November 1991 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/PHSD/MFC/91/4/6.3(ii)(c)
Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization Chairman: Swaziland Rapporteur: Sudan	Fourth meeting 22-23 November 1991 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/PHSD/MFC/91/6/6.3(ii)(a)
Extraordinary meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Economic Development and Planning Chairman: Namibia First Rapporteur: Egypt Second Rapporteur: Burkina Faso	Third meeting 25-27 November 1991 Windhoek, Namibia	E/ECA/CM.3/3
Conference of African Ministers of Finance Chairman: Gabon Rapporteur: Kenya	Fourth session 17-18 December 1991 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/TRADE/91/36
Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers Chairman: Kenya/Cameroon Rapporteur: Togo	Seventh session 2-7 March 1992 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/PSD.7/37
Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development Chairperson: Nigeria First Rapporteur: Uganda Second Rapporteur: Algeria	Thirteenth meeting 9-10 April 1992 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/ATRCW/ARCC.XIII/92/7
Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) Chairman: Nigeria Rapporteur: Lesotho	Thirteenth meeting 13-18 April 1992 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/CM.18/22
Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries Chairman: Chad Rapporteur: Malawi	Eleventh meeting 17-19 April 1992 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/CM.18/23
Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization Interim Chairman: Sudan Rapporteur: Swaziland	Seventh meeting 18-19 April 1992 Addis Ababa	E/ECA/PHSD/MFC/92/4

Annex V

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Title
E/ECA/TPCW.13/1	Provisional agenda
E/ECA/CM.18/1	Provisional agenda
E/ECA/TPCW.13/1/Add.1/Rev.1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/ECA/CM.18/1/Add.1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/ECA/CM.18/	SummaryIssues before the Conference
E/ECA/CM.18/2	Economic Report on Africa 1992
E/ECA/CM.18/2/Add.1	
E/ECA/CM.18/3	Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1990-1991
E/ECA/CM.18/4	The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges
E/ECA/CM.18/5	Implementation of regional development strategies: Update
E/ECA/CM.18/6	Criteria for selection of inter-subregional projects
E/ECA/CM.18/7	Effectiveness of regional and subregional development projects in the agricultural and rural sector, with particular emphasis on environment and substained development
E/ECA/CM.18/8	Analysis of population programme in Africa and implications of recent developments for its scope and prospects
E/ECA/CM.18/9	Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acqui-sition and utilization of information technology in Africa
E/ECA/CM.18/10	Proposal for the accelerated implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s
E/ECA/CM.18/11	Progress report on the implementation of UNTACDA II
E/ECA/CM.18/12	Report on the programme for the second IDDA
E/ECA/CM.18/13	Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environ-ment and Development

E/ECA/CM.18/14	Report on Africa's preparations for and participation in
E/ECA/CM.18/14/Add.1	UNCTAD VIII
E/ECA/CM.18/15	Issues from subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the
E/ECA/CM.18/15/Add.1	Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers
E/ECA/CM.18/15/Add.2	
E/ECA/CM.18/16	Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers
E/ECA/CM.18/17	Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa
E/ECA/CM.18/18	Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work
E/ECA/CM.18/19	Progress report on ECA Regional Advisory Services
E/ECA/CM.18/20	Revision of the Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997
E/ECA/CM.18/21	A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for the operational activities in ECA
E/ECA/CM.18/22	Report of the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Prepara-tory Committee of the Whole
E/ECA/CM.18/23	Report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.1	African Common Position on Environment and Development
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.2	Measures for strengthening coordination and harmonization of activities among existing economic groupings
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.3	Progress report on the utilization of UNTFAD resources
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.4	Lusaka Declaration of the seventh Ministerial Meeting of the African Group of the Group of 77
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.5	Report of the tenth Conference of African Ministers of Industry
E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.6	Report of the third extraordinary meeting of the Conference of Ministers

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